

The UP-TO-DATE football magazine

Saturday April 10 1982 35p



match

WEEKLY

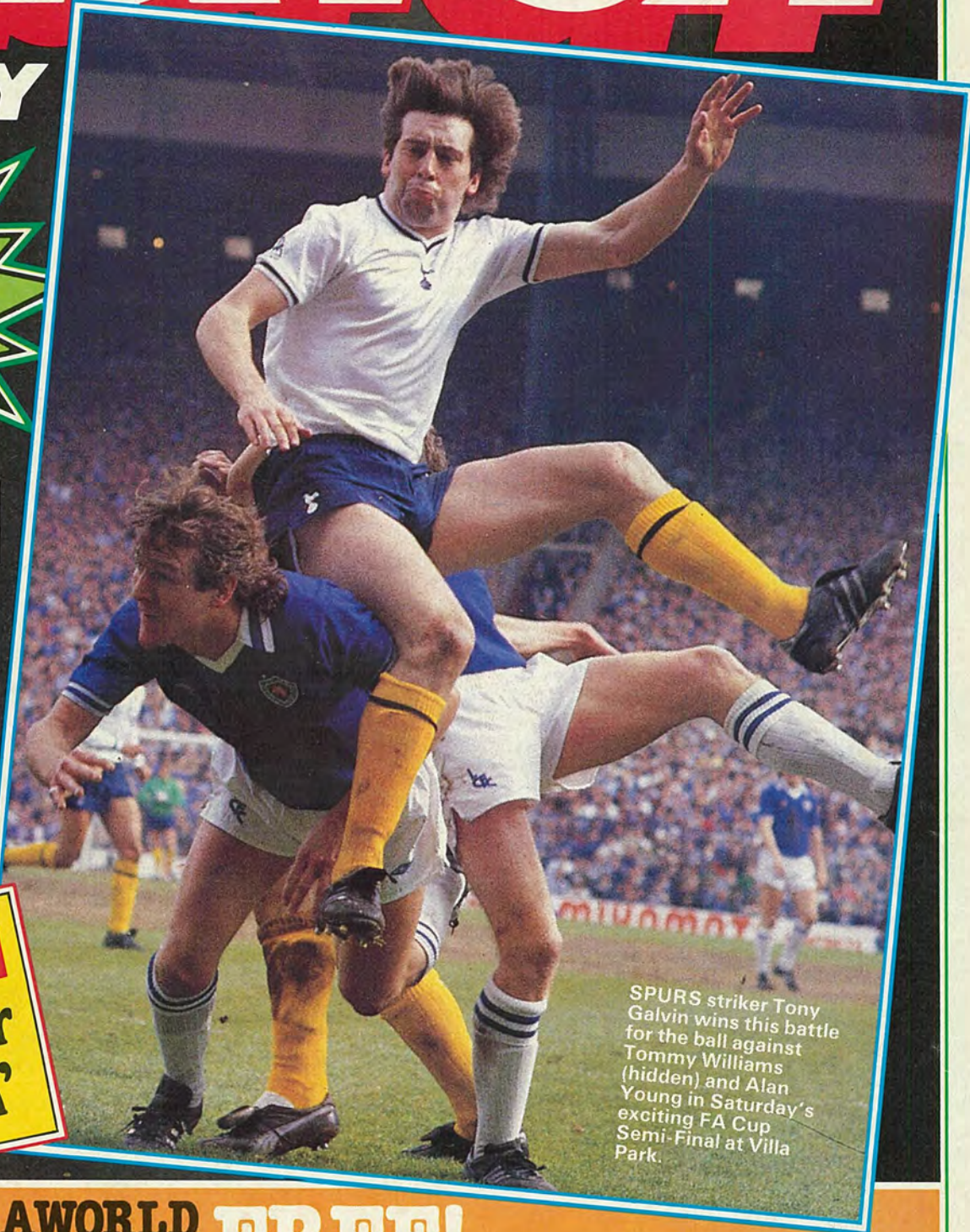
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QPR for
Wembley!

Crooks and
Allen pave the
way

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SPURS striker Tony Galvin wins this battle for the ball against Tommy Williams (hidden) and Alan Young in Saturday's exciting FA Cup Semi-Final at Villa Park.

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BIRMINGHAM new boy Mick Harford provided the perfect end to one of the most bizarre transfer deals ever.

Mick — involved in a three-club tangle on transfer deadline day — became an instant hit with his new club when he scored the winner on his debut against Brighton and again in his second game against Liverpool.

And the 23-year-old striker admits: "It was a wonderful end to what was a traumatic week."

Mick's hopes of a dream move to the First Division were seemingly dashed earlier in the week when he was told that the Birmingham deal had fallen through.

He said: "I expected to finish the season at Bristol City, "but when I arrived at Ashton Gate for a friendly between Southampton and Ipswich, I was told by the City chairman that the deal was on again."

It was then that the complications set in and the wheeling and dealing began.

Third Division crisis club Bristol had bought Mick for £150,000 from Newcastle in the close season... and they still owed the North East club around £110,000 of that fee.

So to make sure that Newcastle got their money, bankrupt City allowed Mick to sign for 'The Magpies' on a free transfer so that they could pocket the £110,000 Birmingham boss Ron Saunders was prepared to pay for the striker.

Deadline

"It was all very complicated and handled by solicitors. I didn't get involved in the deal until it was all decided," said Mick.

"I signed for Newcastle again at about 4pm on transfer deadline day and then joined Birmingham a couple of minutes later. There can't be many players who've had three clubs in just one day!

"I was very relieved when everything was signed and sealed. Joining Birmingham is a great chance for me."

And Mick immediately became the new hero of St Andrew's with a man-of-the-match performance and the only goal of the game against Brighton.

In fact, he could have had two goals. He'd put the ball in the back of the Brighton net within three minutes, only to have the effort disallowed because another Birmingham player was offside.

"Scoring a goal on my debut was just the start I needed. It's a big weight off my shoulders. It's important to get off to a good start. If you go five or six games without scoring, it tends to get on top of you."

"I was nervous before the game, but as soon as we kicked off I thoroughly enjoyed myself. It was great to be playing in front of a large crowd."

"It was difficult to believe that seven days earlier I'd played in front of 4,000 people in a Third Division game at Chesterfield."

Mick had made 29 League appearances for Bristol City this season and was the club's top scorer with 11 Third Division goals.

BEAT



Mick Harford (right), Birmingham's transfer deadline signing from Bristol City, battles against England centre-half Steve Foster on his debut against Brighton.

Harford has three clubs in one day

But it's been an unhappy season at Ashton Gate which has seen severe financial problems and a battle against relegation.

"Despite all the problems at City, I enjoyed my spell there. Bristol is a great place to live and I made a lot of friends."

"It's a great shame that a club with such first class facilities should be battling against the prospect of Fourth Division football and even closure."

Mick joined Bristol after scoring just four League goals in a 19-game run in the Second Division, but he says: "I never doubted my ability as a goalscorer."

"Even though things didn't work out for me at St James' Park, I didn't consider myself a failure. I haven't given enough time there."

Mick's wanderings over the past 15 months have given him a chance to play in every division in the Football League.

"Now I've signed a three-year contract at Birmingham," said Mick, who started his career with Lincoln. "I hope I can see it through in the First Division."

THE CLOCK

STEVE Wicks is back at Queen's Park Rangers and he admits: "I regret ever leaving."

The talented central defender moved to Crystal Palace in a £700,000 close season deal because he felt he couldn't play on Rangers' controversial synthetic turf.

"I was hasty to go so soon. I'm an impetuous person and, after playing on the surface a couple of times, I felt it didn't suit my game.

"I regret moving now, but it's easy to look back and say that sort of thing. At the time, I felt I was right," said Steve, who played just 19 League games for Palace this season.

"I had two of the happiest years of my career at Loftus Road and I'm delighted to be back. It's a long time since I've felt so happy."

Steve talked about his spell at Selhurst Park and said: "I couldn't see Palace getting out of the Second Division.

"The atmosphere was so unstable there. The players just didn't know whether they were coming or going."

Contract

Just days after the transfer deadline passed Steve Kember was handed a three-year managerial contract at Selhurst Park and Steve says:

"Steve Kember is the man the players wanted to get the job, and maybe now things will be more stable.

"But for my own part, it's great to be back with a club that I know is settled and organised."

Steve, who started his career at Chelsea, made 73 League appearances for Rangers before moving to Palace. He returned on transfer deadline day for the bargain knock-down price of £275,000.

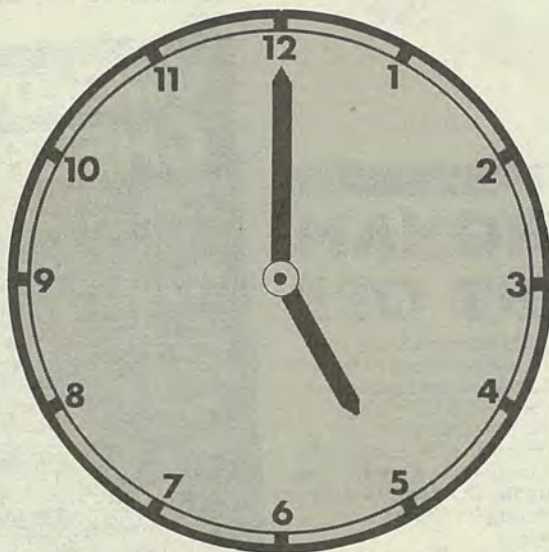
But the deal very nearly didn't go through. As Steve explained: "I registered the signing with just two minutes to spare.

"There had been some talk of me going back for a couple of months, but the first I knew officially was on transfer deadline day.

"The Palace management asked me to stay on after training because there was the possibility of a deal. I waited for over three hours and was about to go home when I was told the clubs had agreed terms," added Steve.

Agreement was reached at 4pm and that meant Steve had just an hour to race across London and register his transfer before the deadline expired.

"I got in my car with Palace manager Steve Kember and we started on our way. It was soon obvious that I wasn't going to make it by road



Wicks signs for Rangers — with minutes to spare

because of the traffic so I parked the car at Tooting Broadway and took the tube.

"I managed to get to the offices at two minutes to five. It was certainly a journey I don't want to experience again," he said.

Steve made his comeback in QPR's 1-0 defeat at Rotherham — a game in which three players were sent off and six booked.

Now Steve is hoping that he can help Rangers return to the First Division. He said: "If we can improve on our away form, there's no reason why we shouldn't get promoted."

• More deadline stories on Page 15.

Little money changed hands, but transfer deadline day produced the usual scramble for signatures as clubs battled to beat the clock. Reporter ANTHONY HAWKSWELL brings you the inside stories on two of the most intriguing deals.

DEADLINE DAY DEALS

Player	From	To	Fee
Steve Wicks	C. Palace	QPR	£275,000
Mick Harford	Bristol C.	B'ham	£110,000
Keith Houchen	Hartlepool	Orient	£25,000
Ray Train	Watford	Oxford	£10,000
Derek Parkin	Wolves	Stoke	Free
Billy Jennings	Orient	Luton	Free
Steve Bryant	Portsmouth	N'hampton	Free
David Mogg	Atvidabert (Swe)	Bristol C.	Free
John Barton	Everton	Derby	Free
John Bramhall	Tranmere	Bury	Free
David Peach	Ex-Swindon	Orient	Free
Kevin Randall	York	Stockport	Free
Brian Smith	B'mouth	Bury	Free
Wayne Entwistle	Blackpool	Crewe	Free
Graham Cawthorne	Grimsby	Doncaster	Free
Gary Liddell	Hearts	Doncaster	Free
David Rodgers	Torquay	Lincoln	Free
Paul Giles	Cardiff	Exeter	On trial
Peter Grotier	Cardiff	Grimsby	Free
Stuart Robertson	Burnley	Exeter	Free
Julian Marshall	Ex-Bristol C.	Blackburn	On trial
Mick Henderson	Watford	Cardiff	Free
Dennis Wann	Blackpool	York	Free
Rod Thomas	Ex-Swindon	Newport	On trial
Archie Gemmill	B'ham	Jacksonville	Free
Keith MacRae	Portland	Leeds	Free
Andy Polycarpou	Cambridge	Cardiff	Free
Jimmy Mullen	Rotherham	Cardiff	Free
Billy Askew	M'bro	Blackburn	Loan
Alan Biley	Everton	Stoke	Loan
Noel Blake	Aston Villa	Shrewsbury	Loan
Gary Shelton	Aston Villa	Sheff. Wed.	Loan
Clive Wigginton	Grimsby	Doncaster	Loan
Leigh Barnard	P'mouth	Peterborough	Loan
Leek Ursem	Stoke	Sunderland	Loan
Richard Money	Liverpool	Luton	Loan
Neil Greacock	Leicester	Gillingham	Loan



KEEGAN SAYS: 'BUY MATCH'

WHEN I decided that Match Weekly was the magazine I wanted to write for, I did so because it had everything that I, as a reader and a player, was looking for.

Its colour posters are excellent, its stories are informative and original and columnists like Steve Coppell, Glenn Hoddle, Graeme Souness, Paul Mariner and David Cross form a winning team.

But most important, Match Weekly is really up-to-date. This issue is a typical example, with colour pictures from the FA Cup Semi-Finals played on Saturday! No other weekly magazine gets colour coverage of the big games that quickly!

Now my thoughts are on the World Cup and, while I'm in Spain with the England squad, I'll be confident in the knowledge that Match will be on the ball — keeping you in touch with what is happening almost as it happens.

There's bound to be an increased demand for the magazine, so don't leave buying your copy to chance. Ask your local newsagent to reserve or

deliver it every week by filling in the coupon below and taking it to your local paper shop. I've ordered mine...

Paul Keegan

To my newsagent
Please reserve/deliver Match Weekly every week until further notice.

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Match Chat

Compiled by Melvyn Beck

CUNNINGHAM SENT OFF

ENGLAND winger Laurie Cunningham was one of three Real Madrid players sent off in the crushing 5-0 UEFA Cup defeat in Kaiserslautern.

The Spanish side, European Cup runners-up last season, led 3-1 from the first leg, but it all went wrong for them in Germany.

San Jose and Pineda also received their marching orders.

To make it a black night for Spain, Valencia were also knocked out of the Quarter-Finals by Swedish side Gothenburg.

GUNNERS TO SIGN YUGOSLAV

ARSENAL hope to sign their first-ever foreign player. They have agreed terms of around £500,000 with Red Star Belgrade for their 27 year old skipper and midfield player Vladimir Petrovic. They are hoping to obtain a work permit for the Yugoslavian international in time for next season.

WALES OPEN AGAINST NORWAY

WALES will open their European Championship qualifying programme at home to Norway on September 12.

Their other qualifying dates are: Dec. 15, Yugoslavia (away); April 27, 1983, Bulgaria (home), Sept. 27, Norway (away); Nov. 16, Bulgaria (away); Dec. 14, Yugoslavia (home).

BELGIANS OFFER FIVE-A-SIDE PLACE

HOW DO you fancy playing football in Belgium over Whitsun weekend, May 29-30?

The tournament organisers in Antwerp are looking for a senior five-a-side entry from Britain to complete the line-up.

Interested teams should telephone First XI Sports Tours on 0778/343812.

WIGAN SUCCESS CHEERS CHARLTON

WIGAN Athletic, one of the favourites for promotion from Division Four, have the potential to become a Second or even First Division club.

That's the view of their famous club director Bobby Charlton, the former Manchester United and England ace.

"We think this is just the start because Wigan is a tremendous sporting town. Even when Wigan were a non-League side, the crowds were tremendous and now we've got this little bit of success there's euphoria in the town," he says.

Much of the success is down to player-manager Larry Lloyd, the former Liverpool and Nottingham Forest defender.

"Larry knows just what he wants and the players react to him," adds Bobby.

"There's no way you can have played for Bill Shankly, Bob Paisley and Brian Clough without some of it rubbing off... but I also think he's his own man."

"I have told Larry that if he ever wants men to help out in practice matches or training then he only has to give me a call."

WALSH WINNER

IAN Walsh, recently signed from Crystal Palace, sent Swansea back to the top of the First Division with his first goal for the club.

He headed home the only goal at Swansea to put John Toshack's side back in the driving seat.

SPANISH SURPRISE

MIDDLESEX referee Clive White will be one of the British officials in Spain for the World Cup Finals.

It came as such a surprise that he had to cancel a holiday in Crete.

And to complete a great season, he will also be refereeing the FA Cup Final at Wembley on May 22.

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Kinsella set to join Ipswich . . .

IPSWICH have agreed a fee of £40,000 for Tampa Bay midfielder Tony Kinsella.

The youngster joined the American side last season from Millwall along with club mate Dave Mehmet.

Mehmet has since joined Second Division Charlton, while Kinsella has now linked up permanently with Ipswich after a trial period.

SAINTS BE PRAISED



COMEDY actor Roy Kinnear (left) was on hand at Southampton recently to present manager Lawrie McMenemy with the Omega/Variety Club 'Team of Month' award for February.

Panel chairman Sir Stanley Rous described the 'Saints' as 'being a good advertisement for British football'.

Also pictured is Omega Chewing Gum's Adrian Lewis who presented a £2,000 cheque to the Variety Club towards a Sunshine Coach.

Star of the Orient

AFTER four days on the dole, dumped there by Swindon Town on medical grounds, player/coach Dave Roberts flew to Hong Kong to be reborn as an oriental soccer superstar.

No British League Club wanted the former Welsh international, but the Tsun Wan Club, fighting relegation, snapped him up, and now he and the club are on top form again, with gates on the 20,000 mark.

Dave said: "I'm learning my coaching apprenticeship the hard way, but my heart is in the game back home."

SCOTS THROUGH

SCOTLAND are through to the Semi-Finals of the European Under-21 Championship.

Although held to a goalless draw by Italy in the second leg at Aberdeen, they went through by virtue of their 1-0 victory in the away leg.

HAZARD MISSES ENGLAND CALL

MIKE Hazard, Tottenham's latest discovery, missed his first England Under-21 cap because of the First Division club's involvement in the European Cup Winners' Cup against Eintracht.

England manager Ron Greenwood revealed that he would have selected the Sunderland-born midfielder player for the match in Poland but for Spurs' clash in West Germany.

After Mike had been named as Robinson's Barley Water 'Young Player of the Month' for March, the England boss said: "Mike is an excellent player — a brilliant individualist who also fits in with the rest of the side."

"He has relished playing alongside Hoddle and Ardiles — he

plays in the same style as them — and, of course, he's competing for his place at the moment.

"I was going to include him in the England Under-21 side against Poland, but Tottenham were involved in Europe."

Former Tottenham manager Bill Nicholson, another panelist, added: "The lad has got loads of ability — added to the fact that he can finish. He's so natural, so vital and two-footed." Regional winners were: London and South, Steve Francis (Chelsea); North West, Graeme Sharp (Everton); North East, Peter Haddock (Newcastle); Midlands, Martyn Bennett (West Brom); Yorkshire, Glyn Snodin (Doncaster); Wales and West, Chris Marustik (Swansea).



Mike Hazard — club commitments cost him his first international cap.

UNITED MAKE SWEET MUSIC

SECOND Division Cambridge United are planning a novel way to boost finances.

In conjunction with the city council, they are staging an open air concert by the London Symphony Orchestra at their Abbey Stadium on Bank Holiday Monday, May 31, at 7.30 pm.

CANADA CALL FOR MELLOR

CANADA-BOUND is former Fulham and Portsmouth goalkeeper Peter Mellor.

The big, blond 'keeper has signed for North America side Edmonton Drillers after being given a free transfer by Third Division Portsmouth.

Another goalkeeper given a 'free' is Swansea's David Stewart, who was ever-present in the club's promotion-winning side last season.

He lost his place at the start of the season when Welsh international Dai Davies was signed from Wrexham.

TOMMY OFF THE MARK

TWO young First Division starlets reached milestones last month.

Manchester City defender Tommy Caton scored his first goal of the season in the 1-1 draw at Nottingham Forest on the day he made his 100th League appearance for the club.

And Arsenal's 17-year-old midfielder player Stewart Robson scored his first senior goal to defeat title rivals Ipswich at Highbury.

FOOTBALL'S A FAMILY AFFAIR

THE Oakley family from Wingate in County Durham certainly mean to keep their soccer flag flying.

Keith Oakley is an 18-year-old defender with Crystal Palace, while his younger brother, Colin, is an apprentice goalkeeper with Sheffield United.

They are following in the footsteps of their father, Norman, who was a professional with Grimsby, Swindon and Hartlepool.

ROVERS RUIN TERRY'S RETURN

FORMER Bristol Rovers' manager Terry Cooper had an unhappy return to Eastville with Doncaster.

Cooper, sacked by Rovers in October, was given a warm welcome by the fans, but it was Rovers who took the honours with a 3-0 victory.

SAD FOR SAXBY

LUTON central defender Mick Saxby appears to have lost his fight to return to his team's Second Division promotion battle.

The £200,000 former Mansfield player damaged a knee four months ago and it now seems unlikely that he will play again until next season.

EX-BOSS ON THE AIRWAVES

FORMER Grimsby manager George Kerr is now looking at football from the other side of the fence.

After being sacked by the Second Division club earlier this year, George has become a soccer commentator for Radio Hallam in the Sheffield area.

George (left) is pictured with Radio Hallam's Dean Pebble before his debut performance at Sheffield Wednesday.

CLIVE'S TREBLE

CLIVE Allen virtually doubled his League goal tally for the season with his hat-trick against Charlton.

The Queen's Park Rangers striker had scored only four goals in the Second Division this season before his goal blast in the London 'derby'.

It was his second hat-trick of the season, his first coming in a four-goal show in the FA Cup against Blackpool.

CHARLIE'S FIRST

Former England striker Charlie George began his second spell with Derby in the 1-0 defeat at Grimsby.

It was Derby's 13th successive away defeat — a club record — and ex-Southampton player George started with a booking.



Peterborough United hot-shot Robbie Cooke is pictured receiving Match Weekly's Division Four 'Matchman of the Month' award for February. Handing over the award — prior to Peterborough's 2-1 home victory over Scunthorpe — is Match News Editor Paul Stratton.

TEER'S TOUR OF THE CAPITAL

YOUNG midfield player Kevin Teer believes that a change is as good as a rest.

The North London lad is now with his third club in the capital and he's only 18.

Although he comes from an area deep in Tottenham and Arsenal territory, he was a schoolboy with Fulham, a youth with Charlton and now a professional with Brentford.

Former Old Trafford favourite Jimmy Nicholl talks to reporter Melvyn Beck about the latest twist in his "nightmare season" . . .

Exiled!

NO FAREWELLS FOR NICHOLL

WORLD Cup defender Jimmy Nicholl flew out to a new career in Canada claiming that Manchester United had driven him out of England.

After joining Toronto Blizzard for £250,000 last week, the Northern Ireland full-back claimed: "At that price, United drove English clubs away."

"I know it probably wouldn't have suited them, but considering my eight years at Old Trafford, they could have dropped the fee to around £100,000 to give me a chance somewhere else."

"Clubs nowadays haven't got that kind of money to spend on a full-back. It's different if you are a striker or a goal-scoring midfield player."

"Going to North America is not a drastic move, but it's one I wasn't counting on for at least another three or four years."

"I would have been content to remain at United until that point had there been any glimmer of hope in terms of first team football."

"But manager Ron Atkinson made it clear to me that there was no chance of me getting back into the first team, so there was no point in hanging around in the reserves."

"I was praying that someone would come in for me before the transfer deadline."

"When nothing happens, you begin to have doubts in your own ability and wonder whether other managers really rate you."

"I still believe I could do a good job for most teams in the First Division but, as Sunderland found out after my loan period, the price was beyond them."

Jimmy has returned to the country of his birth — he was born in Toronto — with plenty of fond memories of his own halcyon days at Old Trafford, but with traces of resentment at the events which led to his departure.

"It's obviously a big wrench to leave the club, but there was no future for me there. It was obvious that I wasn't wanted."

"There were no farewells when I left. I didn't see anybody apart from the secretary, but I suppose that was to be expected."

"It was a funny feeling. I've seen players come and go over the years, but I never thought I would be one of them. I never even contemplated moving from United."

"But what has disappointed me over the past few years is that United haven't had a manager who has appreciated me."

"I wasn't exactly Dave Sexton's biggest fan, but I had to try and make it difficult for him to leave me out, and that's what I did until I was injured last season."

"But this season, I haven't even been given a chance by Ron Atkinson."

"Even when John Gidman was injured, he played Mike Duxbury at right-back rather than myself — and I was playing in that position for the reserves."

"It's been a nightmare season for me — full of sleepless nights as I wondered what would happen to me."

"But I'm hoping the move to Canada will give my career that boost I need in preparation for the World Cup Finals."

"Although I've signed a three-year contract, there is a clause that would enable me to return to England at any time if any club was interested."

"I gather Toronto didn't have too good a time last season, but there have been a lot of changes according to my old United pal Jimmy Greenhoff, who was there last year."

Jimmy expects his spell in the North American League will help him retain his place in the Northern Ireland team.

"There was a possibility that I could have put my Ireland place in jeopardy if I stayed in England and played the rest of the season in the reserves," he points out.

"It was hard trying to retain my enthusiasm in the reserves without any chance of a first team place, but I knew I had to with the World Cup in sight."

"If Ireland manager Billy Bingham had seen me despondent and my play falling below standard, he might have changed the side."

"But now he knows full well that I will have peace of mind and that when I return for Ireland's matches, I shall be a more relaxed, and hopefully, a better player."

Below: John Gidman — "Even when he was injured Mike Duxbury came in at right-back," says Jimmy Nicholl.



The GRAEME SOUNESS COLUMN

THE pride attached to being crowned the kings of Liverpool wasn't nearly as important to us as the three vital points we picked up at the expense of Everton in the derby game at Goodison Park.

Liverpool fans are delighted that we've landed the double over Howard Kendall's men. In many ways, it's the highlight of their season.

But we got much more satisfaction from collecting the three points which lifted us to third place in the First Division.

After the disappointment of losing to CSKA Sofia of Bulgaria in the European Cup Quarter-Finals, we've now got our sights firmly set on the League title.

Ten weeks ago, people were writing us off and saying we'd got no chance. But now it's in our hands. The title is there for us to win.

I believe we're in for an exciting finish. The destination of the trophy won't be decided until the very last game.

Any one of five teams — Swansea, Southampton, ourselves, Man. Utd and Ipswich — are still in there with a shout.

Of the teams still in contention, Swansea must earn special mention. I don't know about an MBE, but manager John Toshack deserves to become Prime Minister if his team takes the title.

He's done a wonderful job since taking over the Welsh club and thoroughly deserves any success that comes his way.

Going back to the derby game, it was great to see Goodison packed to the rafters — over 51,000 were there — and the fans weren't disappointed because it was an exciting game.

Everton's youngsters made it a really hard game for the first 45 minutes but, in the end, it was our experience which saw us through 3-1.

Player-manager Howard Kendall has ignored his big-money close-season buys and gone for homegrown talent. The average age of the team that played us was just 21-years-old.

And judging by their performance in the match,

The
title
is ours
for the
taking

REACH OUT, REDS....

they'll produce the goods in years to come. Playing in a derby match will be great experience for them.

Young midfielder Steve McMahon had another good game, and I was particularly impressed with their number nine Graeme Sharp. He scored their equaliser and looked very dangerous.

I scored my fourth goal in six League games to give Liverpool the lead in the 57th minute.

Scottish international team-mate Kenny Dalglish held off a challenge in front of goal and laid the ball into my path. I hit it with my right and the ball took a deflection as it shot past 'keeper Nev Southall.

A couple of days earlier, I was forced to miss Scotland's World Cup warm-up against Holland at Hampden Park because of a back injury.

Although I didn't go to the

match, it was good to see the lads win 2-1. Results like that will help instil confidence in the side.

While the Scots were doing battle against Holland, my two favourites for World Cup glory — Brazil and West Germany — met in Rio de Janeiro.

I believe Brazil will win the trophy in Spain and they did nothing to change my mind when they beat a strong German side 1-0. Of course Brazil's results are of special interest to us Scots because they are in the same World Cup group as ourselves.

On Saturday, we continue our Championship challenge when we visit Maine Road — determined to exact revenge for our 3-1 defeat at Anfield in December.

After an early goal from Asa Hartford, we never really got a look-in and Kevin Bond added

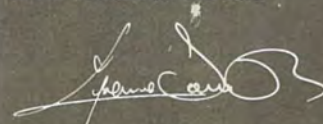
to the tally from the penalty spot with Kevin Reeves scoring the third.

Manchester City have had their injury problems this season and they've had to blood a lot of youngsters, but they've still got a strong squad.

Invariably, the first player you think of when you look at the City side is England striker Trevor Francis. He's got to be one of the best forwards around.

Young centre-half Tommy Caton was recently called into the England squad for the friendly in Bilbao and he looks like an international player of the future.

But we'll be determined to come out on top in Manchester and collect another three points in our assault for the title.



● Graeme Souness was talking to Anthony Hawkswell.



THREAT TO BAILEY

FIRST Division new boy Bruce Grobbelaar — the man with the unenviable task of succeeding England's Ray Clemence at Liverpool — is emerging as the biggest threat to Manchester United's Gary Bailey in the 'Top Stoppers' League.

He has made significant progress in the past few weeks to move into second place and reduce the England B goalkeeper's big lead at the top of the First Division chart.

But, while Gary is in a commanding position to retain his title as the 'safest goalkeeper' in the First Division, Bruce is mounting a late challenge along with his Anfield predecessor, Ray Clemence, whose impressive displays for Tottenham have lifted him into the reckoning.

Although it's as you were in the top flight, there have been changes in other divisions.

Blackburn's Terry Gennoe, signed from Southampton at the start of the season, has taken over at the top of the Second Division from Crystal Palace's Paul Barron, who has tumbled out of the leading contenders.

Terry has conceded, on average, one goal every 103 minutes, to put him clear of Queen's Park Rangers' John Burridge, who is now out of

TOP STOPPERS

THE race is hotting up to find Match Weekly's 'Top Stopper' — the goalkeeper with the safest hands in soccer. We've compiled exclusive tables — so popular with the fans — which show you who is performing the best between the posts this season.

favour at Loftus Road.

There's also a new name at the top of the Division Three list with David Felgate underlining Lincoln's impressive progress since Christmas.

The young Welshman has overhauled Southend's John Keeley with displays that have played a significant part in Lincoln's transformation into promotion material.

It's still Bournemouth's Ian Leigh leading the race in the Fourth Division... not bad for a player who began the season as second choice at Dean Court.

But he is now closely challenged by Bradford City's Neil Ramsbottom and Wigan's Roy Tunks.

The other change occurs in the Scottish Premier where Aberdeen's Jim Leighton has jumped into the lead, relegating former leader Jim McArthur (Hibernian) into joint third.



Gary Bailey — still leading the 'Top Stoppers' League.



LEFT: Ray Clemence — impressive displays for Spurs have lifted him into the reckoning.

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DIVISION ONE

	Games	Goals	Mins. played per goal
1 Gary Bailey (Man. United)	26	16	146
2 Bruce Grobbelaar (Liverpool)	28	24	105
3 Graham Moseley (Brighton)	26	24	98
4 Ray Clemence (Tottenham)	26	25	94
5 Joe Corrigan (Man. City)	30	32	84
6 Peter Shilton (Nott'm Forest)	30	34	79
6 Ivan Katalinic (Southampton)	22	25	79
6 Dai Davies (Swansea)	30	34	79
9 Phil Parkes (West Ham)	26	33	71
10 Jimmy Rimmer (Aston Villa)	30	40	68
11 Jim Platt (Middlesbrough)	29	42	62
11 Peter Fox (Stoke)	29	42	62
13 John Lukic (Leeds)	28	41	61
13 Barry Siddall (Sunderland)	23	34	61
15 Paul Cooper (Ipswich)	24	36	60
16 Paul Bradshaw (Wolves)	31	49	57
16 Raddy Avramovic (Notts County)	30	47	57
18 Jim Blyth (Coventry)	27	51	48

DIVISION TWO

	Games	Goals	Mins. played per goal
1 Terry Gennoe (Blackburn)	32	28	103
2 John Burridge (QPR)	20	19	95
3 Mark Wallington (Leicester)	24	23	94
4 Kevin Carr (Newcastle)	30	29	93
5 Jake Findlay (Luton)	22	22	90

DIVISION THREE

	Games	Goals	Mins. played per goal
1 David Felgate (Lincoln)	31	29	96
2 David McKellar (Brentford)	33	32	93
3 Trevor Swinburne (Carlisle)	32	33	87
3 Roy Burton (Oxford)	31	32	87
5 John Turner (Chesterfield)	33	35	85
5 Gerry Peyton (Fulham)	32	34	85

DIVISION FOUR

	Games	Goals	Mins. played per goal
1 Ian Leigh (Bournemouth)	25	20	113
2 Neil Ramsbottom (Bradford)	22	18	110
3 Roy Tunks (Wigan)	20	18	100
4 Keith Waugh (Sheff. United)	32	29	99
5 Neil Freeman (Peterborough)	29	29	90

SCOTTISH PREMIER

	Games	Goals	Mins. played per goal
1 Jim Leighton (Aberdeen)	24	22	98
2 Pat Bonner (Celtic)	24	23	94
3 Hamish McAlpine (Dundee Utd)	22	22	90
4 Jim McArthur (Hibernian)	27	27	90

(Tables compiled from League matches up to and including those played on March 24. Only goalkeepers who have played at least twenty games qualify).

THE first column after the goalkeeper's name in the table shows the number of League games each 'keeper has played.

The second column shows the number of goals conceded and the third column the average number of minutes' play between each goal.

For instance, Peter Shilton conceded, on average, one goal every 79 minutes during his 30 League outings for Nottingham Forest.



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OF THE
WORLD**



MICHEL PLATINI

FRANCE'S ACE IN THE PACK

FRENCH ace Michel Platini has virtually written off England's chances of success in Spain this summer.

And he believes his own country could be one of the surprise packets of the Finals.

Says the brilliant St. Etienne play-maker: "The draw for the World Cup Finals answered the prayers of most of the French players.

"I think the fixture programme facing the English players between now and the time the Finals kick off means they will be physically drained.

"We will be much better equipped."

France play England in the opening round of the Finals and Platini says:

"The game against England will be our most important international since we played Argentina in the '78 World Cup.

"We had an inferiority complex then, but not now. We are ready to make everyone sit up and take notice."

Platini played superbly to lead his country to an historic 2-0 win over Italy in February — their first victory over the Italians in 62 years — and he says:

"That was a tremendously encouraging result for us. I believe it is all coming good for us at the right time."

So Platini is ready to lead France into the Finals with all the authority that has earned him the captaincy.

He has been their best player for the last five years, emerging as a force in the French team shortly before the start of the 1978 World Cup.

And if his most recent performance against Italy is anything to go by, the 26-year-old, famous for his free-kicks and skilful attacking midfield play, is certainly one to watch in Spain.

Against the Italians, the curly-haired St. Etienne star scored a brilliant goal and dominated the game with his precision passing.

And even Italy's manager Enzo Bearzot admitted: "We have no-one like him in Italy. He is the complete all-round player.

It is only in the last two years that Platini has fully realised the talent that French fans hope will torment England in Bilbao this summer.

And while he sometimes failed to make the impact expected of him during France's qualifying matches, he was dogged by knee injuries and other troubles.

Now he has re-discovered his best form and is once more producing the fantastic match-winning goals that have become his hallmark in recent years.

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BRAZIL

Worthy favourites

IF World Cups were decided simply on sheer class and skill, then the aristocrats from Brazil would surely be lording it in Madrid on July 11 with their fourth World Crown.

But other less palatable, but essential ingredients like cohesion, commitment and temperament are needed to stir into the skilful mixture to produce the potency necessary to conquer the world.

Two of Brazil's record three world championships were achieved within the confines of their own steamy Continent, and not since those champagne days of Pele, Santos, Didi and Garrincha in Sweden 24 years ago, have the Brazilians been a major threat in the European battlefields.

But, despite the perennial fears that their flamboyant, silky skills alone won't be enough to win the day, they are, nevertheless, worthy favourites to reign in Spain.

Their impressive form over the past 18 months has shown a slight hardening of their outlook in terms of their defensive qualities,

although the overriding accent is still on the skilful techniques of the game.

Since manager Tele Santana became their mentor, Brazil have been beaten only twice in 26 internationals and collected a remarkable twenty wins.

And there are many soccer pundits who believe that the resurrection of those magical Pele days is now complete after a lengthy period of transition.

It's in the midfield region where Santana is the envy of every other World Cup Finals manager with four world class performers at his fingertips.

There's skipper Socrates, an influential guider, Flamengo's Zico who has cracked 45 goals in just 66 internationals, Cerezo, an experienced campaigner, and young Falcao, a brilliant schemer with Italian club Roma.

And when you add the pace and power of striker Reinaldo, the idol of Brazilian sport, then Brazil indeed have plenty of riches at their disposal.

At the back, players like the gifted Junior, rated as the best left-back in the world, sweeper Oscar and Luisinho provide the foundation on which Brazil hope to regain world supremacy for the first time since 1970.

Such is the competition for places that many of Brazil's top players have already begun an almost monastic existence.

Curfew

Skipper Socrates has given up smoking and fellow midfield player Rocha has inflicted a 10pm bedtime curfew and ordered his wife not to disturb him even when feeding the baby in the middle of the night!

Brazil's confidence was given a tremendous boost with their 1-0 defeat of their main European rivals West Germany in Rio de Janeiro.

West Germany were without star striker Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, but, nevertheless, it was a result to give the World Cup favourites the ideal send-off to Spain.

The opponents foremost in Brazil team manager Tele Santana's mind when the Finals kick off, however, will be Russia, Scotland and New Zealand.

And it's the Soviet Union — so impressive in the qualifying stages — that the Brazil boss rates most highly.

After watching Spain defeat Scotland 3-0 in Valencia in a World Cup warm-up match, the Brazil boss commented:

"The Scots may fight harder, but I think Russia are a far superior side to Scotland."

LEFT: Brazil's skipper Socrates — two goals en route to the Finals and their mastermind in midfield.



ABOVE: Brazil. Back row (left to right) — Peres, Edevaldo, Luizinho, Edinho, Cerezo, Junior. Front row — Isidoro, Socrates, Reinaldo, Zico, Eder.

Probable squad

PLAYER	AGE	TEAM	POSITION
Valdir PERES	31	Flamengo	Goalkeeper
Paulo SERGIO	24	Botafogo	Goalkeeper
LEANDRO	23	Flamengo	Defender
JUNIOR	27	Flamengo	Defender
OSCAR	27	Sao Paulo	Defender
LUISINHO	23	Ath. Mineiro	Defender
EDEVALDO	24	Fluminense	Defender
JUNINHO	23	Ponte Preta	Defender
EDINHO	25	Fluminense	Defender
PERIVALDO	24	Botafogo	Defender
GETULIO	26	San Paulo	Defender
Toninho CEREZO	27	Ath. Mineiro	Midfield
ZICO	29	Flamengo	Midfield
SOCRATES	28	Corinthians	Midfield
Paulo Roberto FALCAO	28	Roma	Midfield
BATISTA	27	FC Gemio	Midfield
ROBERTO	27	V. Da Gama	Striker
REINALDO	25	Ath. Mineiro	Striker
TITA	23	Flamengo	Striker
Paulo ISIDORIO	28	Gremio	Striker
EDER	24	Ath. Mineiro	Striker
Mario SERGIO	31	Sao Paulo	Striker

COLOURS

Shirts: Yellow (green collars and cuffs); Shorts: Blue; Socks: White (green and yellow borders).

HOW THEY GOT THERE

SOUTH AMERICA GROUP ONE

Venezuela 0, Brazil 1 — Caracas, Feb. 8, 1981.
Bolivia 1, Brazil 2 — La Paz, Feb. 22, 1981.
Brazil 3, Bolivia 1 — Rio, March 22, 1981.
Brazil 5, Venezuela 0 — Gioania, March 29, 1981.

LEADING SCORERS: Zico 5, Socrates 2, Tita 2.

FINAL TABLE

BRAZIL	4	4	0	0	11	2	8
Bolivia	4	1	0	3	5	6	2
Venezuela	4	1	0	3	1	9	2

WORLD CUP FIXTURES

GROUP SIX:

June 14 — Russia (Seville);
June 18 — Scotland (Seville);
June 23 — New Zealand (Seville).

PREVIOUS WORLD CUP FINALS

1930, 1934, 1938 (Third), 1950 (Runners-up), 1958 (Winners), 1962 (Winners), 1966, 1970 (Winners), 1974 (Fourth), 1978 (Third).

MATCH VERDICT ★★★★★

BRAZIL go into the World Cup Finals as red-hot favourites, and there is no reason why they should disappoint their many backers.

Providing they can marry their superior, silky skills to total commitment and even temperament, then they look potential World Cup winners.

● FINALISTS

A-Z WORLD CUP '82

CONTINUING our exciting new World Cup series — an A-Z dossier on the Finalists who will oppose each other in Spain this summer.

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This week — Brazil and Cameroon!

WORLD CUP FIXTURES

GROUP ONE

June 15 — Peru (La Coruna);
June 19 — Poland (La Coruna);
June 23 — Italy (Vigo).

COLOURS

Shirts: Green; Shorts: Red;
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PREVIOUS WORLD CUP FINALS

None

CAMEROON

An impossible task

WILL tiny Cameroon capture the hearts of the World Cup followers in Spain as the minnows who eat the big fish?

World Cup rivals Italy, Poland and Peru will hardly quake in their boots at the credentials offered by a side that lost to Zaïre and Zimbabwe en route to qualification from the African zone.

But, as with their fellow representatives from that Continent, Algeria, the Cameroon are stepping into uncharted territory, and simply elevation to the biggest stage in the world can spell danger to the uninitiated.

The Italians will bear testimony to the damage an un-rated side can do to a country's prestige.

The wounds inflicted by the little men of North Korea back in 1966 have barely healed, and they will be keen to avoid a similar catastrophe this time.

The man hoping to produce the impossible is their 40-year-old Yugoslav manager Branko Zutic, who became their guiding light in August 1980.

He has drawn mainly on the talents of the leading club side, Canon Yaounde, and added a sprinkling of players with experience of higher grade football in other parts of the globe.

Striker Roger Milla, for instance, plays his football in France with Bastia, and with five goals in the

HOW THEY GOT THERE

AFRICA

FIRST ROUND: Cameroon 3 (Milla, Kunde, Abega), Malawi 0 — Yaounde, June 29, 1980.

Malawi 1, Cameroon 1 (Manga-Onguene) — Kamusu, July 20, 1980. Agg: 4-1.

SECOND ROUND: Cameroon 2 (Manga-Onguene, M'Bida), Zimbabwe 0 — Douala, Oct. 12, 1980. Zimbabwe 1, Cameroon 0 — Salisbury, Nov. 16, 1980. Agg: 2-1.

THIRD ROUND: Zaïre 1, Cameroon 0 — Kinshasa, April 12, 1981. Cameroon 6 (Milla 4, M'Bida, Kunde), Zaïre 1 — Yaounde, April 26, 1981.

FINAL ROUND: Morocco 0, Cameroon 2 (Tokoto, Aoudou) — Kenitra, Nov. 15, 1981.

Cameroon 2 (Maya, Aoudou), Morocco 1 — Yaounde, Nov. 29, 1981.

LEADING SCORERS: Milla 5, Manga-Onguene, Aoudou, M'Bida, Kunde 2.

qualifying competition, looks to be a major threat.

Also in France are central defender Ibrahim Aoudou and



Bastia striker Roger Milla — Cameroon's top scorer in the qualifying matches.

striker Paul Bahoken — both play for Cannes — while experienced midfield operator Jean Pierre Tokoto has been in America with Jacksonville.

Milla was voted the African 'Footballer of the Year' back in 1976 shortly before his move to Bastia, while goalkeeper Thomas N'Kono (a big fan of Peter Shilton and Gordon Banks) and striker Jean Manga-Onguene, the grand old man of the side at 35, have also received that honour in the past three years.

MATCH VERDICT ★

THERE is little to suggest that Cameroon will finish other than bottom of Group One.

The element of surprise may not be sufficient to unsettle the methodical and patient approach of Italy and Poland, but the Peruvians might have to be on their guard to avoid falling to a sucker punch in the opening match.

One or two of the Cameroon squad have experience of playing abroad, but they haven't the outstanding potential necessary to cajole the lesser players into producing something above their normal station.

● FIRST ROUND EXIT



Back row (left to right) — Trainer, Theophile Abega, Michel Kaham, Thomas N'Kono, Jean Pierre Tokoto, Ibrahim Aoudou, Branko Zutic (manager).
Front row — Emmanuel Kunde, Jacques N'Guea, Paul Bahoken, Roger Milla, Effrem M'Bom, Francois N'Doumbe Lea.

Probable squad

PLAYER	AGE	TEAM	POSITION
Thomas N'KONO	26	Canon Yaounde	Goalkeeper
Antoe BELL	25	African Sports	Goalkeeper
Edmond ENOKA	27	Dragon Duala	Defender
Rene NJEYA	28	Union Duala	Defender
F. N'DOUMBE LEA	27	Union Duala	Defender
Effrem M'BOM	26	Canon Yaounde	Defender
Gilbert AKONO	27	Canon Yaounde	Defender
Ibrahim AOU DOU	25	Cannes	Defender
Michel KAHAM	26	Quimper	Defender
Gregoire MUNDELEBA	27	Aigles Thiam	Defender
Jacques KINGUE	25	Aigles Thiam	Defender
Theophile ABEGA	26	Canon Yaounde	Midfield
Gregoire M'BIDA	23	Canon Yaounde	Midfield
Jean Daniel EBOUE	30	Canon Yaounde	Midfield
Jean Pierre TOKOTO	33	Jacksonville	Midfield
Joseph KAMGA	29	Union Duala	Midfield
Roger MILLA	29	Bastia	Striker
Paul BAHOKEN	26	Cannes	Striker
Jacques N'GUEA	26	Canon Yaounde	Striker
Jean MANGA-ONGUENE	35	Canon Yaounde	Striker
Emmanuel KUNDE	23	Dinamo Duala	Striker
Alain EYOBO	20	Dinamo Duala	Striker
Eugene EKOULE	27	Union Duala	Striker
Martin MAYA	29	Thonon	Striker

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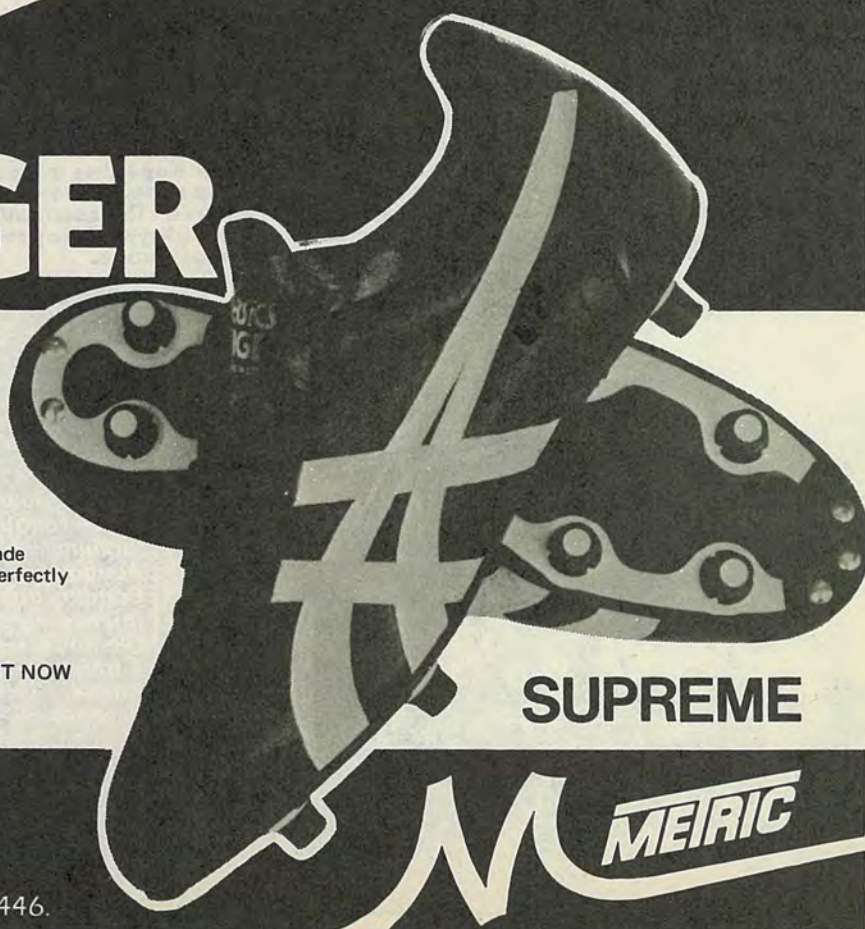
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SUPREME

METRIC

STOKE have given Everton striker Alan Biley a chance to revive his First Division career.

Manager Richie Barker beat the transfer deadline to take Alan to the Victoria Ground on a month's loan after an unhappy spell at Goodison Park.

Alan moved to the Merseyside club from Derby in a £300,000 close-season deal, but like many of player-manager Howard Kendall's big-money signings — including Alan Ainscow, Mike Walsh and Mike Ferguson — he's found himself ousted by the club's homegrown talent.

"The move to Stoke is just the opening I've been looking for," said Alan, who got his loan spell with the Midlands club off to a flying start with a goal on his debut in their 4-3 defeat at Southampton.

"Things just didn't go well for me at Everton and, after a meeting with the manager, we decided it would be best for myself and the club if we parted company.

Grateful

"In my last four months there I played just eight games. I couldn't even be guaranteed a seat on the substitute's bench. I'm grateful to Stoke for giving me a chance to pick up my Division One career.

"I don't believe I've got anything to prove. I know I can score goals in the First Division," added Alan, who started his League career with Cambridge.

Alan thought he was destined to spend the rest of the season in Everton's reserves because the loan deal wasn't completed until transfer deadline day.

"I'd heard all sorts of rumours about different clubs wanting me and the possibility of player

Biley's bright start...

exchange deals, but everything was uncertain until the very last day.

"Obviously Stoke don't have the big club reputation of Everton, but in terms of success over the past ten years they are on a par with each other.

"Manager Richie Barker has proved he's ambitious by signing players of the calibre of England centre-half Dave Watson and Sammy McIlroy from Manchester United."

Even though he's on trial at 'The Potteries' Alan doesn't feel any extra pressure to go out and prove himself to the Stoke boss.

"During my time here, we play some of the top teams in the country. I wouldn't be doing myself any favours if I went out there worrying. I've just got to take the bull by the horns and do my best."

Right: Alan Biley — "I don't believe I have anything to prove in the First Division. I know I can score goals."



LOAN STARS

Luton are Money grabbers!

LIVERPOOL reserve Richard Money vowed never to go on loan again after spending two months at Derby County earlier this season.

But after a transfer deadline day deal, the defender is back on trial — this time with Second Division Championship favourites, Luton.

"The chance of joining Luton was just too good to miss. If everything goes well, I could be playing First Division football next season.

"When I left Derby I said I'd never go on loan again, but the circumstances are different this time around. The thought of playing for Luton appeals to me very much.

"I'd have preferred it if Luton had bought me straight away, but a player can't be too choosy and managers can't afford to make mistakes with football finances in such a depressed state.

"Being on loan doesn't do a player any favours at all. You're always under pressure to impress and you

Left: Richard Money — "I don't regret making the move to Anfield, but the chance to join Luton was too good to miss."

tend to try things that you wouldn't normally do."

Richard revealed that he would have considered a move to Second Division crisis club Derby if the club had been able to raise the cash.

"At the time, I was fed up and desperate for first team football. After making 14 First Division appearances for Liverpool last season, I couldn't face up to the fact that I was out of the reckoning at Anfield.

"I enjoyed my spell at the Baseball Ground. It helped me realise where my priorities are," added Richard, who joined Liverpool from Fulham for £350,000 in the 1980 close season.

"Although I haven't been able to establish myself in the side at Anfield, I don't regret making the move. I knew it was going to be difficult, but it was a chance I had to take.

Battle

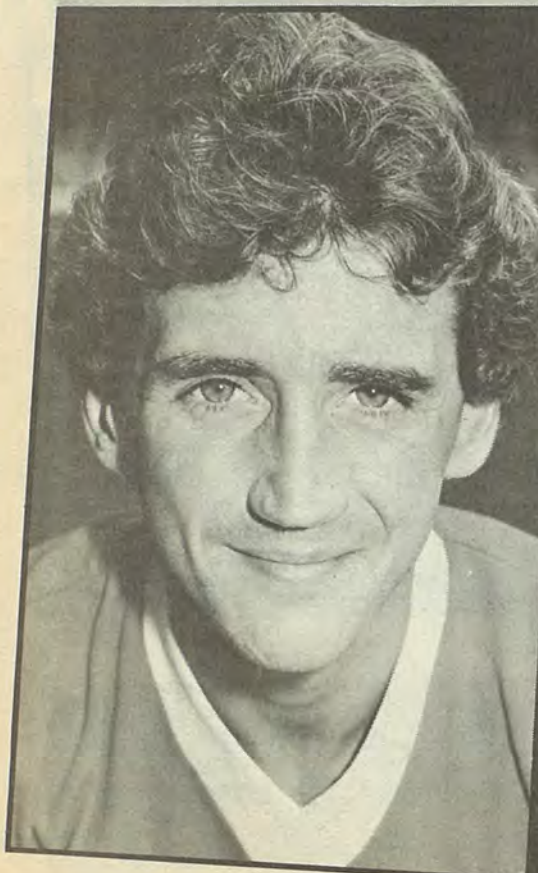
"I thought I did really well in the 14 games I played in the first team. It's just unfortunate I haven't been able to make it.

"It's been a battle for me at Liverpool, but I've enjoyed every minute of it. Last season I was a member of the winning League Cup and European Cup squads and really felt part of the success.

"This season has been different. The arrival of Mark Lawrenson from Brighton has made it doubly difficult. It means two players have to get injured or dropped before I get a look-in.

"I'm disappointed I haven't been able to make the grade at Anfield but it's not the end of my career," added the 26-year-old who made his Luton debut against his old Derby team-mates at the Baseball Ground.

"I made my debut as a left-back for Luton although I am happy anywhere in the back four. The manager will have a good look at me and decide which is my best position."



BE A WINNER

SOLUTIONS

BLANKET BLANK 1 Jan Rust 2 New York Cosmos, 3 Carlisle, 4
Ramondo Pointe, 5 Yngama Rust (Russia)
SOUTH COUZ 1 Bob Laetford (Swenses), 2 York, 3 Liverpool, 4 Alan
Bell (Southampton), 5 Cwrefaw, 6 Frank McGeorge, 7 Preston, Bristol
City and Bristol Rovers, 8 Sheffield United, 9 Ian Wallace, 10
Southampton
WOMAN 1 Mark crew West Brom, 2 Justin Fashanu Nottingham
Forest, 3 Mike Channon (Southampton)
SCORCEWOD Across 1 Jimmy Nicholl, 8 Peter, 9 Broome, 10
Laurie, 24 Brian, 25 Leroy Ambrose
Down 2 Ian Rush, 3 Mountmanner, 4 mine, 5 Clive Allen, 6
Lewington, 7 Peter, 11 Spurs, 12 Giles, 15 relegat, 17 Ardies, 19
Leary, 21 Abbey, 22 Super (Cup), 23 Liam (hidden)



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WHO AM I?

CAN YOU identify the following three players from the pictures and clues?



1. I made my First Division debut against Spurs in November and have been in goal for my club ever since.
2. I'm on the transfer list after a £1m move.
3. I've been capped 46 times for England and play my football on the South coast.



SOCCERWORD



ACROSS

1. Irish international defender whom Manchester United loaned to Sunderland this season (5,7)
8. Utility player Norman --- turned out over 200 times for Plymouth and over 300 times for Portsmouth (5)
9. This former England man who managed Southend and twice managed Exeter played as a forward --- though he sounds like a sweeper! (6)
10. The first name of the former star of 11 down who is the father of 5 down (3)
13. He made his 700th League appearance last season whilst with Sheffield United (6)
14. This Nicholas is a scoring Scot (7)
16. It could be O'Callaghan (7)
18. 'Sell it' (anagram) --- to obtain a Brighton midfielder (6)
20. --- Hardy was a famous old England goalkeeper (3)
23. It comes before Cunningham (6)
24. Defender --- Taylor turned out over 200 times for Walsall before progressing to Plymouth and Preston (5)
25. Charlton midfielder who was Match Weekly's Second Division 'Matchman of the Month' for January (5,7)

DOWN

2. The First Division's 'Matchman of the Month' for January (3,4)
3. It sounds like the way of doing things at Oxford United's ground! (5)
4. Yugoslavia's record score against Zaire in the 1974 World Cup finals (4)
5. The first name of the QPR striker whose goal put his old club, Palace, out of the FA Cup in March (5)
6. 'He got nil' (anagram) — which is very appropriate for Aberdeen's 'keeper' (8)
7. This Nicholas knocks the end off 13 across (5).
11. The London club which 17 down plays for (5)
12. Add two letters to 10 across to find the first name of 18 across (5)
15. Change a club's division, but not for the better (8)
17. Popular midfielder whose first name begins and ends with 'O' (7)
19. A model Austin (5)
21. --- Stadium is where Cambridge United can be found (5)
22. 'Purse' (anagram) — a very special cup (5)
23. Brady is a member of parliament! (4)

WITH *match* ★

QUICK QUIZ

- 1 Name the former England striker who scored a hat-trick on his debut on the opening day of this season?
- 2 Which club plays at Bootham Crescent?
- 3 Where did former England full-back John Gidman begin his League career?
- 4 Name the First Division midfield star who's just completed his 700th League game and is still playing in the top flight?
- 5 Liverpool goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar has played for which other League club?
- 6 Name the Scottish striker who joined Celtic after an unhappy spell at Liverpool?
- 7 Name the three teams relegated from the Second Division last season?
- 8 Which Fourth Division club is nicknamed 'The Blades'?
- 9 Who finished last season as Nottingham Forest's leading scorer in the League?
- 10 Ipswich Town striker Alan Brazil recently scored five goals in a Division One game. Who were the opposition?

BLANKETY BLANK

FILL in the blanks to make sense of the following statements:

- 1 scored Liverpool's third goal in the League Cup Final win over Spurs this season.
- 2 Coventry signed midfield star Steve Hunt from American club
- 3 are at home at Brunton Park.
- 4 Swiss international moved to French club St Etienne after a spell at the City Ground.
- 5 Aston Villa beat in the Quarter-Finals of the European Cup.

RIDDLE TIME

THIS defender moved south to Tottenham from Aberdeen in September 1975. He picked up an FA Cup winner's medal with another London club before moving to the Midlands this season in a £150,000 deal.

Don't miss next week's 'Match' for the answer.

- The answer to last week's riddle was Frank Worthington (Leeds).

MATCH THEM UP

CAN you pair the following four Third Division strikers with their proper clubs?

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 1 Peter Fletcher | A Exeter |
| 2 Tony Kellow | B Portsmouth |
| 3 Paul Rideout | C Huddersfield |
| 4 Billy Rafferty | D Swindon |

Did you spot the deliberate mistake in the Top Ten quiz (March 20)?

We stated that Arsenal presented Swansea with their first Division One 'double' of the season, but that distinction actually fell to Notts. County.

FOLLOW ENGLAND WITH A PRIZE BOOKLET

WIN a copy of the official England World Cup brochure in another FREE to enter 'Match Weekly' competition.

We're giving away TWENTY-FIVE copies of 'Viva England' — a full colour booklet to commemorate England's appearance in the World Cup Finals.

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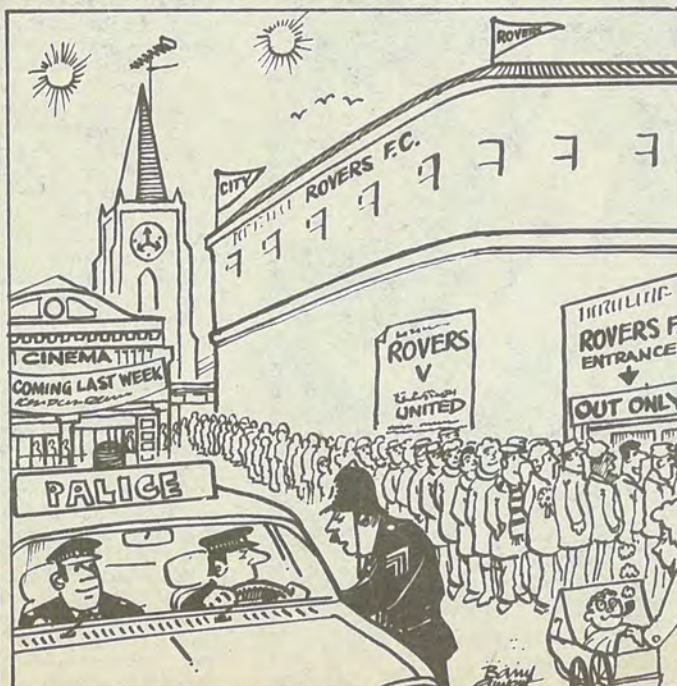
All you have to do to stand a chance of winning one of these prizes is to study the cartoon and spot the ten deliberate mistakes.

When you've spotted the errors, circle

them with a pen, fill in the coupon and send it off to: 'Viva England' Competition, Match Weekly, 14 Holkham Road, Orton Southgate, Peterborough PE2 0UF.

Entries must reach us by Friday, April 16 and the results will be announced in our Saturday, May 1, issue.

If you're not one of the lucky prize-winners, you can obtain a copy of the booklet from all good newsagents or by post from FA Publications, 16 Lancaster Gate, London W2 3LW.



NAME

ADDRESS

AGE



FA CUP SEMI



Above: QPR man-of-the-match Bob Hazell (5) makes a diving headed clearance to frustrate an Albion attack at Highbury.

Below: Ossie Ardiles — making what was possibly his last appearance for Spurs this season — duels for the ball with Leicester's Andy Peake.



Now for

SPURS and QPR turned the FA Cup Semi-Finals into a Cockney carnival on a day of triumph and tragedy.

It was triumph for Rangers' matchwinner Clive Allen whose goal was enough to defeat West Bromwich Albion at Highbury.

But tragedy for Leicester's Ian Wilson whose nightmare own goal sealed victory for Cup holders Spurs.

So it's an all-London Final and delighted Rangers' manager Terry Venables declares:

"It will be a spectacular event to see Tony Currie and Glenn Hoddle on the same park."

Underdogs QPR kept alive their hopes that it is to be the year of a Second Division side with a goal in the 72nd minute.

And in scoring it, Clive Allen has earned the club their first FA Cup Final appearance.

Said and elated Clive, whose 21st birthday comes just two days before the Wembley showpiece on May 22:

"It won't go down as the best I've ever scored, but it has to be one of the most important.

"You could say it was a bit lucky because I didn't know too much about it.

"I challenged Albion defender Ally Robertson and as he swung at the ball it flew off my right knee and into the net.

"Overall I think we were the better side and deserved our win."

Added QPR manager Terry Venables: "Everyone is so elated and overcome with emotion. In the dressing room after the match

some of the players were shedding tears of joy.

"Tony Currie and Glenn Roeder were big influences in settling the team down, but everything went according to plan.

"I've played in a Cup Final and now I'm lucky enough to be going back as a manager. I hope I get the same result.

"Spurs are one of the most attacking sides in the country so it all points to a great Final."

It was 'Match Weekly' columnist Glenn Hoddle who stole the Spurs show in the other Semi-Final tie at Villa Park with a hypnotic display of midfield artistry.

But it was a day to forget for the unfortunate Ian Wilson, whose intended back pass sent Spurs into a 2-0 lead and virtually killed off any hope Leicester had of toppling the holders.

Awful

So often his side's inspiration in their assault on the Cup this season, Ian admitted:

"It was the worst feeling I've ever known. That awful mistake will always stick in my mind.

"When I saw the ball in the back of the net I just wished I was anywhere but Villa Park. It was terrible because up to that moment we were still in with a chance."

In contrast, Garth Crooks, whose goal gave Spurs the lead in the 57th minute, had plenty to smile about...

FINAL ACTION



Currie v Hoddle

"I never used to believe in miracles but I'm beginning to. The goal came at just the stage when I felt I ought to do something — and my right foot is usually the one I stand on!"

"I've scored some vital goals, but I'm playing with some marvellous players and that makes it easier."

Added Tottenham goalkeeper Ray Clemence, appearing in a record 33rd Semi-Final: "All week Leicester had been threatening to run us off the park. We matched them for that and in the end all our skill came through."

REPORTERS: Paul Stratton, Anthony Hawkswell, Melvyn Beck.

PICTURES: — Villa Park: Phil Bagnall. Highbury: Ray Gregory.



Top: Goal! Garth Crooks (left) thunders home Spurs opening goal past the despairing Mark Wallington.

Left: QPR striker Simon Stainrod (far left) lets fly with a long-range effort at Highbury.

Above: Leicester's Gary Lineker drives in a dangerous cross as Spurs skipper Steve Perryman challenges.

●TURN OVER FOR MORE GREAT PICTURES FROM THE SEMI-FINALS — IN BRILLIANT COLOUR.



FA CUP SEM

ON T WA WEM



Above: Queen's Park Rangers' matchwinner Clive Allen challenges Albion skipper John Wile for the ball.

Right: So close! Leicester 'keeper Mark Wallington is beaten by a header from Spurs striker Steve Archibald, but Andy Peake (4) is there to clear off the line.

Left: QPR's Gary Waddock goes up for a high ball with Albion defenders Ally Robertson and John Wile as Clive Allen, Simon Stainrod and Brendon Batson look on.

FI-FINAL ACTION-COLOUR EXCLUSIVE!

THEIR Y TO BLEY

Above left: My ball! Spurs goalkeeper Ray Clemence safely gathers in a dangerous looking Leicester cross as the bodies fly in.

Above right: Tottenham goalscorer Garth Crooks fires in a shot despite the attentions of Leicester's Larry May.



Fixtures

Friday, April 9
DIVISION TWO
Grimsby v Barnsley.....
Watford v C. Palace.....

DIVISION THREE
Brentford v Millwall.....
Plymouth v Exeter.....
Southend v Wimbledon.....

DIVISION FOUR
Blackpool v Wigan.....

Saturday, April 10
DIVISION ONE
Birmingham v Leeds.....
Brighton v Arsenal.....
Everton v Man. Utd.....
Man. City v Liverpool.....
M'boro v Notts Co.....
Nott'm F v Wolves.....
Southampton v A. Villa.....
Stoke v Sunderland.....
Spurs v Ipswich.....
West Brom v Coventry.....
West Ham v Swansea.....

DIVISION TWO
Barnsley v Derby.....
Bolton v Wrexham.....
Cambridge v Luton.....
Cardiff v Orient.....
Chelsea v Q.P.R.....
Newcastle v Leicester.....
Norwich v Charlton.....
Oldham v Blackburn.....
Rotherham v Grimsby.....
Shrewsbury v Sheff. Wed.....

DIVISION THREE
Bristol R. v Portsmouth.....
Burnley v Lincoln.....
Chester v Newport.....
Doncaster v Chesterfield.....
Exeter v Bristol C.....
Gillingham v Fulham.....
Huddersfield v Walsall.....
Preston v Carlisle.....
Reading v Oxford.....
Swindon v Plymouth.....

DIVISION FOUR
Bradford v Halifax.....
Colchester v B'rmouth.....
Hartlepool v Stockport.....
Hereford v Port Vale.....
Hull v Darlington.....
Northampton v Aldershot.....
Scunthorpe v Rochdale.....
Sheff. Utd v Bury.....
Torquay v P'boro.....
Tranmere v Blackpool.....
Wigan v Crewe.....
York v Mansfield.....

SCOTTISH
PREMIER DIVISION
Celtic v Rangers.....
Dundee Utd v Airdrie.....
Hibernian v Aberdeen.....
Partick v Morton.....
St Mirren v Dundee.....

FIRST DIVISION
Ayr v Falkirk.....
E. Stirling v Clydebank.....
Hamilton v Hearts.....
Motherwell v Dumbarton.....
Queen's Pk v Dunfermline.....
Raith v Queen of Sth.....
St Johnstone v Kilmarnock.....

SECOND DIVISION
Albion R. v Stirling.....
Alloa v Meadowbank.....
Arbroath v Clyde.....
Brechin v E. Fife.....
Cowdenb'th v Berwick.....
Sten'muir v Forfar.....
Stranraer v Montrose.....

Stratton on Saturday

£5 IS THE PRIZE!

I'M Paul Stratton and if my challenger (opposite) can prove she's a better tipster than me, she wins £5!

In the panel below, I've given my predictions for ten selected matches and you can see my opponent's predictions alongside them.

There's a space for your forecasts and a column for the actual result so, just for fun, you can try to beat me too.

Award two points for every score you get right and one point if you get the result right (i.e. home win, away win, draw) but the scoreline wrong.



Pictured above is my special guest opponent this week — 16-year-old Cathy Oldham from Middleton, Manchester. Cathy is a fanatical Liverpool fan and her favourite player is Graeme Souness.

Blues will make Worthington bitter

FLAMBOYANT Frank Worthington makes a quick return to St Andrew's on Saturday.

His return to face his former team-mates comes less than six weeks since his transfer to Elland Road.

And it gives Birmingham fans a first hand chance to compare him with the man bought to replace him — former Bristol City striker Mick Harford.

Frank has already notched a few goals for his new club and Mick scored on his home debut to earn Birmingham three points at the expense of Brighton.

So it will be an interesting

confrontation.

But while Frank will be keen to silence the fans who once cheered him on, I can't see it being a winning return.

Points are vital to both sides as they strive to pull away from the relegation zone, but looking at the home form of Birmingham and the away form of Leeds, the latter look set to return home empty-handed.

At the other end of the First Division scale, Liverpool look to have their work cut out preventing Manchester City from landing the double over them.

City went to Anfield on Boxing Day and thumped the Merseyside giants 3-1 with goals

from Hartford, Bond (pen), and Reeves.

That win took John Bond's team to the top of the League and left Liverpool languishing in twelfth spot.

And while Liverpool are now much better placed for a title push than their rivals at Maine Road, I'm taking City to win again.

I've predicted possible scorelines for ten of Saturday's matches and the challenge is beat me if you can!

● Bad luck to Adrian Bagnoli — my guest opponent in the March 20 issue of Match — who lost five points to two.

MATCH Saturday, April 10	MY FORECAST	GUESTS FORECAST	YOUR FORECAST	RESULT	WHO WON THIS WEEK? POINTS SCORED
Birmingham v Leeds	2-1	2-1			
Man. City v Liverpool	1-0	0-3			
West Ham v Swansea	2-0	2-2			
Cambridge v Luton	2-2	1-3			
Chelsea v QPR	3-1	1-1			
Chester v Newport	2-0	2-1			
Swindon v Plymouth	2-1	2-1			
Bradford v Halifax	3-0	1-1			
Hereford v Port Vale	1-1	1-0			
Celtic v Rangers	2-0	3-1			
					PAUL YOURSELF
					AGGREGATE SCORES CARRIED FORWARD TO NEXT WEEK
					PAUL YOURSELF

GREAT GOALS



The ball soars over the head of Sunderland keeper Chris Turner after a neat lob by Ian Rush (centre) to earn Liverpool a 1-0 victory at Anfield.



Leicester keeper Nicky Walker cannot stop Gary Bannister (far left) scoring his 18th goal of the season in Sheffield Wednesday's 2-0 victory at Hillsborough.



Spurs' goalscorer Graham Roberts watches anxiously as Southampton's goalkeeper Ivan Katalinic, the first of a hat-trick for Roberts during Spurs' 3-2 victory at White Hart Lane.

JUNIOR'S JEWEL WRECKS GERMANS



9
WEEKS
TO GO

BRAZIL full-back Junior underlined his threat to World Cup Final defences with a brilliant winner in the 1-0 defeat of West Germany in Rio.

The swashbuckling left-back, whose real name is Leovegildo Lins Gema, volleyed a superb 86th minute goal to shatter the Germans' resistance in the prestigious friendly.

His appearances in opposing penalty areas stems from his early days as a midfield player with the junior side at Flamengo.

And he follows the long traditions of brilliant Brazilian defenders, including Carlos Alberto and Francisco Marinho, who learned their basic skills on the beach.

Says Junior, rated the world's best full-back: "I still love to attack. In fact, I feel much more like a midfield player than a defender."

"I really believe in playing football in an attacking way right from the back."

Meanwhile, West Germany, who were without the injured striker Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, could have blond midfield star Bernd



Brazil's Junior — brilliant goal in the defeat of West Germany.

Schuster back in the reckoning.

The Barcelona player wants to patch up his differences with manager Jupp Derwall and skipper Paul Breitner.

"I have changed my mind about things and I want to have a reunion with them to resolve my problems and play in the World Cup if I am fit enough", says Bernd who recently underwent a knee operation.

Generous Zico

BRAZIL'S brilliant forward Zico is as generous off the field as he is deadly on it.

After receiving a brand new Toyota car for being 'Man of the Match' in Flamengo's World Club Championship win over Liverpool, he duly sold it and shared the money with his team-mates.

"If it hadn't been for the whole team, I couldn't have won the car," he says.



Hungary skipper Tibor Nyilasi — "Our fans could be a big factor in our favour."

TIBOR COUNTS ON HUNGARIAN HORDES

HUNGARY skipper Tibor Nyilasi is banking on plenty of vocal support in Spain.

"I think a lot of people will travel from Hungary with us — maybe as many as 15,000 — and it could be a big factor in our favour," he says.

"Another thing that will help us is that very famous Hungarian players like Puskas were very popular with the fans in Spain."

Hungary are in the same group as reigning champions Argentina and European Championship runners-up Belgium, but he's confident they will reach the Second Round.

He tips Brazil for the title because "they are undoubtedly the most spectacular team in the world", but he doesn't fancy meeting West Germany.

"They have a lot of big guns, play like a machine, have fitness, physique and discipline."

Barcelona favourites to sign Maradona

THE future of Argentinian star Diego Maradona, who was recently linked with Arsenal, could well be in Spain with Barcelona.

They are one of the few clubs in the world that could match the reported asking price of around £4 million.

The Spanish giants made a profit of £2.8 million last year which puts their financial means way beyond the reach of any top club in England.

Boniek may be Italy-bound

POLAND'S top player Zbigniew Boniek is at the centre of an Italian guessing game.

He is reported to have signed for one of Italy's top clubs, but at the moment his destination next season is a secret.

Reports indicate that either Juventus or AC Milan will have the talented midfielder in their side after the World Cup Finals.



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8 Excellent
7 Good
6 Adequate
5 Off form
4 Poor

MATCH RATINGS

- ★★★★★ A classic
★★★★★ Good value
★★★★★ Satisfactory
★★★ Dull
★ A waste of money

Sunday, Mar. 28 Division Three

MILLWALL (0) 0
SWINDON (0) 0
Att: 4,381
Millwall: ★SANSOME 8, Martin 6, Madden 6, Allardice 7, Roberts 7, Chatterton 6, Massey 6, West 7, Shinton 7, Horrix 6 (sub. Hayes 6), Neal 7.
Swindon: Allan 5, Henry 7, Lewis 7, Stroud 6, Williams 6, Emmanuel 7, Hedges 6, Carter, R 6, Pritchard 6, Rideout 7. ★CARTER, M 8.
Referee: M. J. Bodenham (Brighton)
Match Rating: ★★

Monday, Mar. 29 Division One

TOTTENHAM (0) 2 (Archibald 64, Hughton 73)
ARSENAL (2) 2 (Sunderland 25, 44)
Att: 40,940
Spurs: Clemence 7, Hughton 7, Roberts 6, Price 6, Villa 6, Perryman 7, Ardiles 6, Archibald 6, Galvin 6, Hoddle 7. ★HAZARD 8.
Arsenal: Wood 6, Hollins 7, Sansom 7, Talbot 6, O'Leary 6, Whyte 6, Meade 6, Sunderland 7, Davis 6 (sub. Nicholas), Robson 7. ★RIX 8.
Referee: R. Lewis (Great Bookham)
Match Rating: ★★★★★
Sendings Off: Sunderland (Arsenal) and Hughton (Spurs)

Division Two

QPR (1) 2 (Flanagan 35, Stainrod 89)
SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (0) 0
Att: 11,710
QPR: Hucker 7, Neill 7, Dawes 7, Micklewhite 7. ★WICKS 9, Roeder 7, Currie 7, Flanagan 7, Allen 8, Stainrod 6, Gregory 6.
Sheff Wed: Bolder 6, Blackhall 6, Williamson 6, Smith 7, Pickering 7, Taylor 7, Megson 7, Mirocevic 6 (sub. Shelton 6), Bannister 7, Pearson 6. ★CURRAN 8.
Referee: D. J. Axcell (Southend)
Match Rating: ★★

Tuesday, Mar. 30

Division One

ASTON VILLA (0) 2 (Shaw 50, Withe 79)
WEST BROM (1) 1 (King 9)
Att: 28,440
Aston Villa: Rimmer 6, Swain 6, Williams 6, Evans 7, McNaught 6, Mortimer 6, Heard 6, Shaw 6. ★WITHE 8, Cowans 6, Morley 6.
West Brom: Grew 6, Batson 7, Webb 6, Bennett 6, Wile 6, Robertson 6, Cross 6. ★KING 8, Brown 6, Owen 6, Mackenzie 6.
Referee: J. Hunting (Leicester)
Match Rating: ★★

IPSWICH (1) 3 (Brazil 39, 71, Wark 84)
BRIGHTON (0) 1 (Robinson 77)
Att: 19,361
Ipswich: ★SIVELL 8, Burley 7, McCall 7, Mills 7, Osman 7, Steggs 7, Wark 7, Muhren 7, D'Avray 6, Brazil 7, Gates 7.
Brighton: Digweed 6, Shanks 6, Nelson 7, Greulich 6 (sub. Stille), Foster 7, Gattling 7, Stevens 7, Ritchie 6. ★ROBINSON 8, McNab 6, Thomas 6.
Referee: J. Deakin (Bedford)
Match Rating: ★★

LIVERPOOL (1) 3 (Rush 12, 74, McDermott 77)
BIRMINGHAM (0) 1 (Harford 83)
Att: 24,224
Liverpool: Grobbelaar 6, Neal 5, Lawrenson 6, Kennedy 7, Whelan 7, Thompson 6, Dalglish 7, Lee 6. ★RUSH 8, McDermott 6, Johnston 5.
Birmingham: Wealdens 6, Langan 7, Hawker 5, Van den Hauwe 5, Scott 5, Curbishley 5, Dillon 5, Evans 5 (sub. Handsides), ★HARFORD 8, Broadhurst 6, Van Mierlo 5.
Referee: C. N. Seel (Carlisle)
Match Rating: ★★

SWANSEA (0) 0
WEST HAM (1) 1 (Van der Elst 9)
Att: 20,272
Swansea: Davies 6, Robinson 6, Hadziabdic 6 (sub. Stanley 5), Rajkovic 7, Kennedy 5, Irwin 5. ★CURTIS 8, James, R 6, James, L 6, Stevenson 6, Latchford 5.
West Ham: Parkes 6, Stewart 6, Lampard 6, Orr 7, Martin 7, Devonshire 6. ★VAN DER ELST 8, Goddard 6, Cross 6, Brooking 7, Allen 6.
Referee: B. T. Stevens (Stonehouse)
Match Rating: ★★

Division Two

CARDIFF (2) 2 (Stevens 5, Moore, D, og 42)
GRIMSBY (1) 1 (Whyte 15)
Att: 3,924
Cardiff: Healey 5, Jones 6, Gilbert 6, Pontin 6, Micallef 7, Mullen 7. ★GRAPES 8, Henderson 6, Kitchen 6, Bennett, D 6, Stevens 7.

Grimsby: Batch 6, Moore, D 6, Crombie 6, Stone 7, Cooper 5 (sub. Ford 6), Moore, K 7, Broly 6, Kilmore 6. ★WHYMARK 8, Mitchell 6, Cumming 6.
Referee: D. Civil (Birmingham)
Match Rating: ★★

LUTON (0) 2 (Moss, pen 62, Hill 71)
ORIENT (0) 0
Att: 9,716
Luton: Findlay 8, Stephens 8, Money 8, Horton 8, Goodyear 7, Donaghy 8, Hill 7. ★STEIN 9, White 6, Turner 7, Moss 7.
Orient: Day 7. ★FOSTER 8, Peach 7, Fisher 7, Gray 6, Banjo 6, Godfrey 6, Houchen 6, Moores 6 (sub. Hughton), Silkman 7, Sussex 6.
Referee: T. D. Spencer (Salisbury)
Match Rating: ★★

SHREWSBURY (1) 1 (Atkins, pen 32)
LEICESTER (1) 1 (Lineker 36)
Att: 5,340
Shrewsbury: Wardle 7, Leonard 7, Johnson 7, Cross 6, Blake 7, MacLaren 7, Biggins 7, Tong 6, Atkins 7. ★DUNGWORTH 8, Turner 6 (sub. Gibson).
Leicester: ★WALLINGTON 9, Williams 7, Friar 7, Peake 7, May 6, O'Neill 6, Lynex 7, Lineker 7, Young 7 (sub. Melrose), Wilson 7, Kelly 6.
Referee: A. Robinson (Manchester)
Match Rating: ★★
Sending Off: Kelly (Leicester)

Division Three

HUDDERSFIELD (1) 2 (Kennedy, pen 34, Hotte 84)
NEWPORT (0) 0
Att: 4,205
Huddersfield: Cox 6, Brown 7, Burke 6, Stanton 6, Sutton 7, Hanvey 6, Lillis 6. ★KENNEDY 8, Hotte 7, Robins 6, Cowling 7.
Newport: Kendall 6, Walden 5, Vaughan 7, Davies 6, Oakes 5, Johnson 6. ★LOWNDES 8, Elsey 6, Aldridge 6, Tynan 7, Gwyther 6 (sub. Bishop 7).
Referee: K. E. Walmsley (Blackpool)
Match Rating: ★

Division Four

COLCHESTER (1) 1 (Allinson 35)
CREWE (1) 1 (Palios 41)
Att: 1,904
Colchester: Walker 6, Cook 5, Coleman 5, Leslie 4. ★WIGNALL 7, Wright 5, Cotton 6, Bremner 6, Osborne 5, Longhorn 4, Allinson 5.
Crewe: Mulhearn 6, Lewis 6, Griffiths 5, Salathiel 6, Scott 6, Palios 7, Haslegrave 7, Keighly 5, Entwistle 6, Chesters 6. ★WILLIAMS 8.
Referee: K. Baker (Rugby)
Match Rating: ★

SCUNTHORPE (0) 0
STOCKPORT (0) 0
Att: 1,815
Scunthorpe: Neenan 7, Arins 7, Keeley 7, Boyd 7, Thompson 7, Oates 7, Hammill 7. ★TELFER 8, Cammack 7, Moss 7, Goodlass 7.
Stockport: Lloyd 7, Rutter 7, Sherlock 7, Emmerson 6, Thorpe 7, Smith 7. ★WILLIAMS 8, Phillips 7, Coyle 6, Park 6, Stafford 7.
Referee: G. J. Napthine (Loughborough)
Match Rating: ★★

SHEFFIELD UNITED (1) 1 (Trusson 8)
BRADFORD (0) 1 (Gallagher, pen 59)
Att: 24,593
Sheff Utd: Waugh 6, Casey 7, Garner 7, Matthews 7. ★HOUSTON 8, Kenworthy 6, Morris 6, Trusson 6, Edwards 6, Hutton 7, King 6.
Bradford: Ramsbottom 7, Podd 6, Watson 7, Ingham 6. ★COOKE 8 (sub. Jackson), McFarland 7, Gallagher 7, Staniforth 7, Campbell 6, McNiven 6, Chapman 6.
Referee: G. M. Tyson (Sunderland)
Match Rating: ★★

WIGAN (2) 2 (Bradd 5, Methven 26)
BLACKPOOL (0) 1 (Morgan, pen 84)
Att: 7,329
Wigan: ★TUNKS 8, McMahon 6, Glenn 6, Taylor 7, Lloyd 6, Methven 7, O'Keefe 5, Barrow 6, Bradd 6, Houghton 7, Weston 6.
Blackpool: Hesford 6, Simmonite 5, Brookbank 6, Deary 6, Hart 5, Blair 6, Morgan 7, McAvooy 7 (sub. Harrison 5). ★HOCKADAY 8, Bamber 5, Pashley 5.
Referee: J. E. Bray (Hinckley)
Match Rating: ★★

SCOTTISH First Division

QUEEN'S PARK (2) 2 (Verrechia 12, McCulloch 27)
KILMARNOCK (1) 3 (McDicken 33, Gallagher 67, 84)
Att: 800

Second Division

CLYDE (2) 3 (Docherty 43, O'Neill 44, 63)
STIRLING (2) 3 (Colquhoun 23, Steele 30, Torrance 74)
Att: 700

STENHOUSEMUIR (0) 0
ALLOA (0) 1 (Holt 76)
Att: 430

Wednesday, Mar. 31

Division Two

NEWCASTLE (0) 0
CRYSTAL PALACE (0) 0
Att: 21,610
Newcastle: Carr 7, Brownlie 7, Saunders 6, Treweek 6, Carney 7, Haddock 7, Mills 6, Martin 6, Varadi 6, Cartwright 7. ★WADDLE 8.
Crystal Palace: Barron 7, Bason 7, Hinshelwood 6. ★PRICE 8, Cannon 7, Gilbert 6, Giles 5, Smillie 7, Langley 6, Mabbutt 7, Brooks 6.
Referee: R. F. Nixon (Stockport)
Match Rating: ★★

Division Three

CHESTER (0) 1 (Simpson 70)
WIMBLEDON (0) 1 (Joseph 82)
Att: 1,359
Chester: Millington 6, Raynor 7, Burns 6, Cottam 7, Zelem 6, Blackwell 6, Sutcliffe 7, Jones 6. ★SIMPSON 8, Ludlam 5, Henderson 7.
Wimbledon: Beasant 6, Brown 5, Armstrong 6, Smith 6, Morris 5, Downes 7, Ketteridge 6. ★JOSEPH 8, Evans 5, Leslie 5, Elliott 6 (sub. Belfield 6).
Referee: J. Key (Rotherham)
Match Rating: ★★
Sendings Off: Brown and Downes (Wimbledon)

LINCOLN (0) 1 (Cockerill 69)
BURNLEY (0) 1 (Steven 88)
Att: 6,148
Lincoln: Felgate 6, Carr 6, Neale 6, Cockerill 7, Peake 7, Rodgers 6 (sub. Gilbert 6), Shipley 7, Turner 7, Hobson 7. ★CUNNINGHAM 8, Hibberd 7.
Burnley: ★STEVENSON 8, Laws 7, Wharton 6, Potts 7, Overson 6, Dixon 6, Dobson 7, Steven 7, Hamilton 6, McGee 6, Young 6.
Referee: J. Bray (Leicester)
Match Rating: ★★

OXFORD (1) 1 (Kearns 5)
GILLINGHAM (1) 1 (Adams 42)
Att: 5,223
Oxford: Burton 6, Fogg 6, Smithers 5, Train 7, Briggs 6, Shotton 6, Lawrence 7, Kearns 5, Hebbard 6. ★BROCK 8, Seacole 6 (sub. Thomas 6).
Gillingham: Hillyard 6, Sharpe 5, Adams 6, Bruce 5, Weatherly 6, Shaw 5 (sub. Grewcock 6). ★SITTON 7, Tydemans 5, White 6, Cascarino 5, Price 5.
Referee: H. W. King (Merthyr Tydfil)
Match Rating: ★★

Division Four

HARTLEPOOL (1) 1 (Brown 12)
ROCHDALE (0) 1 (Wellings, pen 77)
Att: 1,259
Hartlepool: Watson 7, Linacre, J 6, Linacre, P 5, Hogan 6, Bird 6, Bainbridge 5, Linighan 6, Staff 5. ★BROWN 8, Dobson 6 (sub. Lowe 6), Johnson 6.
Rochdale: Crawford 6, Weir 7, Snookes 6, Dolan 5 (sub. Williams 6), Burke 6, Goodwin 6, Hamilton 6, Hilditch 7. ★WELLINGS 8, Martinez 6.
Referee: K. Hackett (Sheffield)
Match Rating: ★★

HEREFORD (0) 1 (Showers 70)
BOURNEMOUTH (1) 2 (Morgan 32, Funnell 59)
Att: 3,415

MATCH FACTS MATCH FACTS

Hereford: Brand 6, ★PRICE 8, Bartley 6, Pejic 6, Overson 7, Spiring 7, Harvey 7, Laidlaw 5, Phillips 6, Showers 7, White 7.
Bournemouth: ★LEIGH 9, Heffernan 7, Sulley 6, Spackman 8, Brignull 7, Impey 7, Carter 6, Williams 6, Crawford 6, Morgan 7, Funnell 7.
Referee: G. P. Owen (Anglesey)
Match Rating: ★★★

SCOTTISH Premier Division

DUNDEE UNITED (0) 0
CELTIC (1) 2 (Burns 2, 84)
Att: 15,000
Dundee Utd: McAlpine 7, Stark 7, Malpas 6, Gough 5 (sub. Bannion 6), Hegarty 7, Narey 6, Kirkwood 6, Milne 6, Holt 7, ★STURROCK 8, Dodds 6.
Celtic: ★BONNER 8, McGrain 7, Reid 6, Aitken 7, McAdam 6, MacLeod 7, Crainie 6, Sullivan 7, McGarvey 6 (sub. McStay 6), McCluskey 7, Burns 7.
Referee: A. Waddle (Penicuik)
Match Rating: ★★★

RANGERS (1) 1 (MacDonald 42)
AIRDRIE (0) 0
Att: 6,000
Rangers: Stewart 7, Dawson 7, Black 6, Jardine 7, McClelland 6, Bett 7, Dalziel 6, Russell 6, Robertson 6, ★MACDONALD 8, Davies 7.
Airdrie: ★MARTIN 9, McCluskey 7, Rodger 6, Campbell 7, Anderson, G 7, Anderson, N 6, McKeown 6, Flood 7, Walker 6, Gordon 6, McGuire 7.
Referee: A. McGunnigle (Glasgow)
Match Rating: ★★★

First Division

RAITH (0) 0
HEARTS (0) 3 (McCoy 46, 63, MacDonald 82)
Att: 2,500

ST JOHNSTONE (1) 2 (Morton 30, pen 70)
DUNFERMLINE (0) 1 (Forrest 78)
Att: 1,200

Second Division

ALBION (1) 2 (Houston 41, 83)
MEADOWBANK (0) 0
Att: 600

Under-18 Friendly

SCOTLAND (2) 2 (Nevin 3, Black 32)
MEXICO (0) 0
Att: 5,641
(Played at Aberdeen)

Friday, April 2 Division One

LIVERPOOL (0) 1 (Dalglish 61)
NOTTS COUNTY (0) 0
Att: 30,126
Liverpool: Grobbelaar 6, Neal 7, Lawrenson 6, Kennedy 6, Whelan 7, Thompson 6, ★DALGLISH 8, Lee 7, Rush 7, McDermott 5, Johnston 7.
Notts County: ★AVRAMOVIC 8, Benjamin 7, O'Brien 6, Goodwin 6, Kilcline 6, Richards 6, McParland 5 (sub. Hunt 6), Harkouk 6, McCulloch 6, Chidozie 7, Mair 7.
Referee: J. Hough (Macclesfield)
Match Rating: ★★★

Division Two

BARNESLEY (2) 3 (Birch 26, 78, Walker 40)
ROTHERHAM (0) 0
Att: 23,059
Barnsley: ★HORN 8, Longden 7, Chambers 6, Mann 7, Banks 6, McCarthy 7, Law 7, Walker 7, Aylott 6, McHale 6, Birch 7.
Rotherham: Mountford 6, Forrest 6 (sub. Henson), Breckin 7, Hughes 6, Stancliffe 6, Green 7, Towner 7, Gow 6, Moore 6, ★SEASMAN 8, McEwan 7.
Referee: A. Saunders (Newcastle)
Match Rating: ★★★

Division Three

PLYMOUTH (0) 1 (Hodges 56)
NEWPORT (0) 2 (Eisey 58, Bishop 82)
Att: 5,148
Plymouth: Crudgington 5, ★NISBET 8, Uzzell 5, Harrison 6, Phillipson-Masters 6, Cooper 5, Hodges 5, Cook 6, Sims 5, Randall 5, Rogers 6.
Newport: Kendall 6, Waldeen 7, Vaughan 5, Thomas 5, ★OAKES 8, Johnson 6, Eisey 5, Bishop 6, Tynan 7, Aldridge 7, Moore 5.
Referee: L. Burden (Wimborne)
Match Rating: ★★

Division Four

HALIFAX (2) 4 (Firth 12, Davison 17, 77, Spooner 48)
STOCKPORT (0) 1 (Williams 89)
Att: 2,135
Halifax: Kilner 7, Chamberlain 7, Carr 7, Evans 7, Ayre 7, ★HENDRIE 9, Ward 7, Davison 8, Graham 7, Spooner 7, Firth 7.
Stockport: Lloyd 6, Rutter 5, Sherlock 6, Emmerson 6, Thorpe 5, Smith 6, Williams 6, Phillips 6, Sunley 6, ★PARK 7, Stafford 6.
Referee: R. Chadwick (Darwen)
Match Rating: ★★★

SCUNTHORPE (1) 2 (Moss 19, Telfer 60)
COLCHESTER (0) 1 (Brenner 64)
Att: 1,762
Scunthorpe: Neenan 7, Arins 8, ★KEELEY 9, Boyd 6, Thompson 7, Oates 7, Grimes 7, Telfer 7, Cammack 7, Moss 7, Goodlass 8.
Colchester: Walker 7, Cook 7, Coleman 7, Leslie 6, Wignall 7, Wright 7, Adcock 7, Brenner 7, ★OSBORNE 8, McDonough 6, Allinson 7.
Referee: D. Allison (Lancaster)
Match Rating: ★★★

WIGAN (1) 4 (Barrow 22, McMahon 59, Methven 68, 88)
YORK (1) 2 (Byrne 42, Smith 56)
Att: 6,029
Wigan: Tunks 6, McMahon 7, Glenn 7, Taylor 7, Lloyd 6, ★METHVEN 8, O'Keefe 6, Barrow 6, Bradd 6, Houghton 6 (sub. Quinn), Weston 6.
York: Astbury 7, Sweeney 7, Dawson 6, Hood 5, Czuczman 6, Smith 6, Ford 7, Aitken 6, Walwyn 6, ★BYRNE 8, Laverick 5 (sub. Crosby).
Referee: D. Sivell (Birmingham)
Match Rating: ★★★

Saturday, April 3 FA Cup, Semi-Final

TOTTENHAM (0) 2 (Crooks 57, Wilson, og 75)
LEICESTER (0) 0
Att: 46,806
Spurs: Clemence 6, Hughton 6, Roberts 6 (sub. Miller), Price 7, Hazard 6, Perryman 7, Ardiles 6, Archibald 7, Galvin 6, ★HODDLE 8, Crooks 7.
Leicester: Wallington 6, Williams 6, Friar 6, Peake 6, ★MAY 8, O'Neill 6, Lynex 6, Lineker 6, Young 6 (sub. Melrose 6), Wilson 6, Kelly 7.
Referee: N. Midgeley (Salford)
Match Rating: ★★★

QPR (0) 1 (Allen 72)
WEST BROM (0) 0
Att: 45,015
QPR: Hucker 7, Fenwick 7, Gillard 6, Waddock 8, ★HAZELL 9, Roeder 7, Currie 8, Flanagan 7, Allen 6, Stainrod 6, Micklewhite 7.
West Brom: Grew 6, Batson 6, Statham 6, Zondervan 7, ★WILE 8, Robertson 7, Bennett 6, King 6 (sub. Owen 6), Regis 7, Cross 5, Mackenzie 6.
Referee: K. Hackett (Sheffield)
Match Rating: ★★

Division One

BRIGHTON (1) 1 (McNab, pen 31)
SOUTHAMPTON (0) 1 (Keegan 64)
Att: 20,977
Brighton: Digweed 6, Shanks 6, Nelson 6, Greulich 7, Foster 6, ★GATTING 9, Stevens 8, Ritchie 7, Robinson 7, McNab 7, Thomas 7.
Southampton: Katalinic 6, Golac 6, Holmes 7, Williams 7, Nicholl 6, Waldron 7, Keegan 7, Channon 6, Puckett 5 (sub. ★WALLACE 8), Armstrong 6, Ball 5.
Referee: C. Thomas (Porthcawl)
Match Rating: ★★★

IPSWICH (1) 1 (Wark 32)
COVENTRY (0) 0
Att: 20,411
Ipswich: Cooper 7, Burley 7, McCall 7, Mills 6, ★OSMAN 8, Gernon 7, Wark 7, Muhren 6, D'Avray 6, Brazil 6, Gates 7.
Coventry: Sealey 6, Thomas 6 (sub. Thompson 7), Roberts 6, Jacobs 6, Dyson 7, Gillespie 7, Whittton 6, ★FRANCIS 8, Hateley 6, English 6, Butterworth 6.
Referee: D. Vickers (Ilford)
Match Rating: ★★

LEEDS (0) 0
MANCHESTER UNITED (0) 0
Att: 31,118

Leeds: Lukic 7, Hird 6, Gray, E 6, Gray, F 6, ★HART 8, Cherry 7, Thomas 7, Graham 6, Worthington 6, Connor 6, Barnes 6.
Man Utd: Bailey 7, Duxbury 6, Albiston 7, Wilkins 7, Moran 6, Buchan 6, Robson 8, McGarvey 7, Stapleton 6, Moses 6, ★COPPELL 9.
Referee: J. Hunting (Leicester)
Match Rating: ★★

MANCHESTER CITY (0) 0
WEST HAM (0) 1 (Goddard 79)
Att: 30,875
Man City: Corrigan 7, Ranson 6, McDonald 6, Reid 6, Power 6, ★CATON 8, Ryan 7, Reeves 6, Hareide 6, Hartford 5, Jackson 5.
West Ham: Parkes 7, Stewart 6, Lampard 6, Orr 6, Martin 7, Devonshire 6, Van der Elst 6, ★GODDARD 8, Cross 7, Brookling 7, Allen 6.
Referee: D. Lloyd (Worcestershire)
Match Rating: ★★★

NOTTINGHAM FOREST (0) 0
EVERTON (0) 1 (McMahon 74)
Att: 17,323
Nott'm Forest: Shilton 6, Gunn 5, Bowyer 5, McGovern 5, Young 4, Gray 6, Roeber 4, Wallace 5, Fashanu 4 (sub. Plummer 6), ★PROCTOR 7, Robertson 6.
Everton: Southall 6, Borrowes 5, Ratcliffe 5, Higgins 5, Wright 6, McMahon 6, Irvine 6, Heath 6, Sharp 6 (sub. Ainscow), ★EASTOE 7, Ross 6.
Referee: C. Downey (Hounslow)
Match Rating: ★★

SUNDERLAND (0) 0
MIDDLESBROUGH (1) 2 (Ashcroft 34, Baxter 79)
Att: 19,006
Sunderland: Turner 7, Venison 6, Munro 5, Hindmarch 6, Arnott 6, Elliott 6, ★BUCKLEY 8, McCoist 6 (sub. Ursem 6), Rowell 6, Pickering 6, Cummins 6.
Middlesbrough: ★PLATT 8, Nattrass 7, Bailey 6, Ross 6, Baxter 7, Wood 7, Bolton 6, Otto 7, Hodgson 7, Ashcroft 6 (sub. Woof), Thomas 6.
Referee: N. H. Glover (Chorley)
Match Rating: ★★

WOLVES (0) 1 (Eves 55)
ARSENAL (0) 1 (Davis 89)
Att: 11,532
Wolves: Bradshaw 6, Humphrey 6, Palmer 6, Matthews 5, Pender 6, ★COY 7, Hibbit 6, Carr 6, Richards 5, Eves 6, Clarke 6.
Arsenal: Wood 6, Hollins 6, Sansom 6, Talbot 6, O'Leary 6, ★WHYTE 7, Meade 4 (sub. Hawley 5), Sunderland 5, Davis 5, Robson 6, Rix 6.
Referee: D. Richardson (Great Harwood)
Match Rating: ★★

Division Two

BOLTON (1) 1 (Thompson 26)
SHREWSBURY (0) 1 (Atkins, pen 90)
Att: 5,833
Bolton: McDonagh 6, Whitworth 6, Bennett 6, Henry 7 (sub. Langley 6), Jones 7, McElhinney 7, Chandler 6, Cantello 7, Gowing 7, ★REID 8, Thompson 7.
Shrewsbury: Wardle 7, Leonard 6, Johnson 6 (sub. Petts 6), ★CROSS 8, Bates 7, MacLaren 6, Biggins 6, Tong 6, Atkins 7, Dungworth 6, Turner 6.
Referee: D. Hutchinson (Harrogate)
Match Rating: ★★★

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MATCH FACTS MATCH FACTS

CAMBRIDGE (0) 1 (Fallon 85)
NORWICH (0) 2 (Mendham 58, Deehan 65)
 Att: 7,035
 Cambridge: Key 6, Donaldson 6, Murray 6, Smith 5, **FALLON 8**, O'Neill 7, Cartwright 6, Spriggs 6 (sub. Turner), Gibbins 6, Finney 7, Goldsmith 6.
 Norwich: Woods 7, Haylock 6, Downs 6, McGuire 7, Walford 6, Watson 6, Bennett 6, O'Neill 6, Deehan 7, Bertschin 6, ***MENDHAM 8**.
 Referee: T. Bune (Cranleigh)
 Match Rating: ★★★

CARDIFF (0) 2 (Bennett, D 62, Micallef 85)
WATFORD (0) 0
 Att: 6,734
 Cardiff: Healey 6, Jones 6, Gilbert 6, Pontin 7, Micallef 6, Mullen 8, Grapes 7, Henderson 7, Kitchen 6, ***BENNETT, D 9**, Stevens 6.
 Watford: Sherwood 6, Rice 6, Pritchett 6, Taylor 6, Terry 6, Bolton 6, ***ROSTRON 8**, Blissett 7, Jenkins 5, Lohman 5 (sub. Armstrong 6), Barnes 6.
 Referee: K. P. Barratt (Coventry)
 Match Rating: ★★★

CHARLTON (0) 0
NEWCASTLE (1) 1 (Waddle 28)
 Att: 6,357
 Charlton: Johns 7, Naylor 7, Elliott 8, Mehmet 6, Gritt 6, Phillips 6, Ambrose 7, ***WALSH 9**, Hales 6, Berry 6, Robinson 5 (sub. Lansdowne 7).
 Newcastle: Carr 8, Brownlie 6, Carney 7, Haddock 7, Saunders 6, Martin 7, Cartwright 6, Treweek 6, ***MILLS 9**, Varadi 8, Waddle 7.
 Referee: B. T. Stevens (Gloucestershire)
 Match Rating: ★★★

CHELSEA (1) 2 (Mayes 35, 56)
OLDHAM (0) 2 (Heaton 53, Wyde 65)
 Att: 8,938
 Chelsea: Francis 7, Locke 6, Hutchings 6, Nutton 6, Chivers 6, Pates 6, Rhoades-Brown 7, Walker 7, Lee 7, ***MAYES 8**, Fillery 6.
 Oldham: McDonnell 7, Edwards 5, Ryan 5, Keegan 6, Firm 5, Hoolickin 7, Wyde 7, Heaton 7, Palmer 7, ***MCDONOUGH 8**, Atkinson 7.
 Referee: T. D. Spencer (Salisbury)
 Match Rating: ★★★

CRYSTAL PALACE (0) 0
GRIMSBY (1) 3 (Kilmore 36, Moore, K 84, Whymark 88)
 Att: 7,541
 Crystal Palace: Barron 6, Bason 6 (sub. Hilaire 6), Hinshelwood 6, Lovell 6, Cannon 5, Gilbert 6, Giles 6, Smillie 6, Langley 5, Mabbutt 6, ***BROOKS 7**.
 Grimsby: Batch 6, Moore, D 6, Crombie 6 (sub. Crosby 6), Waters 7, Stone 6, Moore, K 6, Brolly 6, ***KILMORE 8**, Whymark 6, Mitchell 6, Cumming 6.
 Referee: N. J. Bodenham (Brighton)
 Match Rating: ★★

LUTON (1) 2 (Stein 27, White 70)
BLACKBURN (0) 0
 Att: 10,721
 Luton: Findlay 6, Stephens 7, Money 8, Horton 8, Goodyear 6, Donaghy 7, Hill 7 (sub. Jennings), ***STEIN 9**, White 6, Turner 7, Moss 6.
 Blackburn: Genoe 7, Branagan 7, Rathbone 6, Speight 6, Keeley 7, Fazackerley 6, ***MILLER 8**, Stonehouse 7, Bell 6, Garner 7 (sub. Hamilton), Brotherston 7.
 Referee: A. W. Grey (Great Yarmouth)
 Match Rating: ★★★

WREXHAM (0) 1 (McNeil 53)
DERBY (1) 1 (Emson 29)
 Att: 4,073
 Wrexham: Niedzwiecki 7, Hill 6, Bater 7, Davis 8, Downman 8, ***RONSON 9**, Leman 7, McNeil 6, Vinter 6, Fox 8, Carrodus 6.
 Derby: Banovic 8, Barton 7, Buckley 7, Skivington 7, Sheridan 7, McAlle 7, George 7, ***ATTLEY 9**, Wilson 7, Swindlehurst 6, Emson 8.
 Referee: T. Fitzharris (Bolton)
 Match Rating: ★★★

Division Three

BRENTFORD (1) 1 (Booker 15)
OXFORD (2) 2 (Hebbard 16, Foley 43)
 Att: 5,786
 Brentford: McKellar 7, McNichol 7, Tucker 6, Salaman 6, ***WHITEHEAD 8**, Booker 7, Kamara 7, Johnson 6, Bowen 7, Bowles 7, Roberts 6 (sub. Sweetzer 6).
 Oxford: Burton 7, Fogg 6, Smithers 7, Train 6, Briggs 7, Shotton 7, Lawrence 6, Foley 7, ***HEBBARD 8**, Brock 6, Jeffrey 6.
 Referee: I. Borrett (Diss)
 Match Rating: ★★★

BRISTOL ROVERS (0) 0
MILLWALL (1) 1 (Hayes 2)
 Att: 4,279
 Bristol Rovers: Kite 7, Jones 6 (sub. Randall 6), Gillies 6, Williams 6, G. Parkin 7, Hughes 6, Barratt 7, ***WILLIAMS, D 8**, Stephens 6, Mabbutt 7, Williams 8, B 6.
 Millwall: Sansome 7, Martin 6, Madden 7, Chatterton 6, ***ALLARDYCE 8**, Roberts 6, Shinton 6 (sub. Horrix 6), Massey 7, Hayes 7, Neal 7, West 6.
 Referee: H. King (Merthyr Tydfil)
 Match Rating: ★★★

BURNLEY (2) 3 (Hamilton 3, 13, Young 89)
READING (0) 0
 Att: 6,622
 Burnley: Stevenson 6, ***LAWS 9**, Wharton 7, Cavener 7, Overson 6 (sub. Anderson), Holt 6, Dobson 7, Steven 8, Hamilton 8, McGee 7, Young 7.
 Reading: Fearon 6, Williams 6, Lewis 5, Webb 7, Hicks 6, Wood 6, Beavan 6, Kearney 6, ***DIXON 8**, Hetzke 7, Donnellan 6 (sub. Cullen).
 Referee: G. Courtney (Spennymoor)
 Match Rating: ★★★★★

CARLISLE (2) 2 (Staniforth 10, Ashurst 35)
PORTSMOUTH (0) 0
 Att: 3,919
 Carlisle: Swinburne 7, Parker 6, Rushbury 6, Larkin 6, ***ASHURST 8**, Craig 7, Ritchie 6, Haigh 6, Robson 7, Lee 5, Staniforth 7.
 Portsmouth: Knight 7, McLaughlin 6, Sullivan 6, Doyle 7, Aizlewood 6 (sub. Wimbleton), Ellis 6, Berry 6, Rafferty 7, ***SENIOR 8**, Tait 6, Crown 6.
 Referee: D. Webb (Sale)
 Match Rating: ★★

CHESTERFIELD (0) 0
LINCOLN (1) 2 (Cunningham 28, Hobson 90)
 Att: 7,443
 Chesterfield: Turner 6, Stirk 4, O'Neill 6, ***WILSON 8**, Pollard 5, Ridley 6, Robinson 5 (sub. Bellamy 6), Henderson 6, Bonnyman 5, Athersych 7, Crawford 6.
 Lincoln: Felgate 7, Carr 6, Neale 6, Cockerill 7, Peake 8, ***THOMPSON 9**, Shipley 7, Turner 7, Hobson 6, Cunningham 7, Hibberd 7.
 Referee: R. Bridges (Deeside)
 Match Rating: ★★★★★

DONCASTER (0) 1 (Wigginton 59)
GILLINGHAM (0) 1 (Sittin 46)
 Att: 3,902
 Doncaster: Boyd 6, Humphries 6, Harle 6, Snodin, I 6, Cawthorne 6, ***WIGGINTON 7**, Pugh 5 (sub. Lally 5), Liddell 6, Douglas 6, Snodin, G 6, Lister 6.
 Gillingham: Hillyard 6, Sharpe 6, Adams 6, Bruce 6, Weatherly 6, Sittin 6, Powell 5 (sub. Cascarino 6), Tydeman 6, ***LEE 7**, Grewcock 6, Price 6.
 Referee: J. Worral (Warrington)
 Match Rating: ★★

EXETER (1) 3 (Raynor, og 6, Kellow, pen 61, Giles 81)
CHESTER (0) 0
 Att: 2,498
 Exeter: Bond 6, Rogers, M 5, Sparrow 6, ***GILES 8**, Foster 7, Roberts 6, Pratt 6, Rogers, P 6, Kellow 7, Robertson 7, Pullar 5 (sub. Hatch 6).
 Chester: Harrington 6, Raynor 5, Burns 4, ***STORTON 8**, Zelem 6, Needham 5, Allen 6, Ludlam 7, Simpson 7, Sutcliffe 6, Henderson 7.
 Referee: K. Salmon (Barnet)
 Match Rating: ★★

PRESTON (1) 3 (Bruce 19, 87, O'Riordan 53)
WIMBLEDON (0) 2 (Leslie 62, Brown 88)
 Att: 4,964
 Preston: Hodge 7, Anderson 7, McAteer 7, Naughton 7, Booth 7, O'Riordan 7, ***KELLY 8**, Doyle 7, Elliott 6, Buckley 7, Bruce 7.
 Wimbledon: ***BEASANT 9**, Brown 7, Armstrong 7, Smith 6, Morris 6, Downes 6, Ketteridge 7, Joseph 7, Evans 6, Hodges 6, Bellfield 6 (sub. Leslie 6).
 Referee: C. L. Newsome (Shropshire)
 Match Rating: ★★★

SOUTHEND (0) 3 (Greaves 68, 77, Phillips, pen 73)
BRISTOL CITY: (0) 0
 Att: 3,133
 Southend: Cawston 7, Stead 7, Yates 7, ***POUNTNEY 9**, Moody 7, Hadley 8, Greaves 8, Phillips 7, Nelson 6 (sub. Spence), Mercer 7, Otulakowski 7.
 Bristol City: Shaw 7, Stevens 7, Williams 7, Musker 7, ***BOYLE 8**, Nicholls 7, Economou 6 (sub. Newman), Bray 7, Chandler 6, Carter 6, Hay 6.
 Referee: T. W. Ward (London)
 Match Rating: ★★★★★
 Sending Off: Nicholls (Bristol City)

SWINDON (1) 1 (Rideout 45)
HUDDERSFIELD (1) 5 (Hanvey 26, Hotte 67, 73, Cowling 88, Kennedy 89)
 Att: 3,872
 Swindon: Allan 7, Henry 5, Baddeley 5, Williams 6, Carter, R 5, Stroud 7, Hughes 6, Emmanuel 7, ***RIDEOUT 8**, Carter, M 7, Pritchard 6 (sub. Abbley).
 Huddersfield: Cox 7, Brown 7, Burke 7, Stanton 6, Valentine 7, Hanvey 7, Lillis 7, Kennedy 6, ***HOTTE 8**, Wilson 6, Cowling 6.
 Referee: B. Hill (Kettering)
 Match Rating: ★★★★★

WALSALL (0) 1 (Buckley, pen 46)
FULHAM (0) 1 (O'Driscoll 58)
 Att: 3,120
 Walsall: Green 7, Horne 7, Bower 7, Macken 7, Serella 7, Baines 6, Loveridge 7, Teasdale 8 (sub. Round), O'Kelly 7, Buckley 7, ***PREECE 9**.
 Fulham: Peyton 8, Hopkins 7, Strong 7, O'Driscoll 7, Brown 7, ***GALE 9**, Davies 7, Wilson 6, Coney 7, Parker 6, Lock 7.
 Referee: D. Shaw (Sandbach)
 Match Rating: ★★★★★

Division Four

ALDERSHOT (0) 1 (MacDonald 55)
PORT VALE (2) 2 (Sproson 5, Deakin 30)
 Att: 1,594
 Aldershot: Johnson 5, Scott 5, Wooler 4, Briley 6, Bennett 5, Jopling 6, McGregor 6, McDonald 7, Sanford 6, French 5, ***BRODIE 8**.
 Port Vale: Harrison 6, Bennett 6, Bromwich 6, Tarrt 5, Sproson 7, Bowles 7, Shankland 6 (sub. Hunter 5), Moss 7, Greenhoff 5, ***DEAKIN 8**, Chamberlain, M 7.
 Referee: J. Deakin (Bedford)
 Match Rating: ★★★★★

BOURNEMOUTH (0) 1 (Funnell 60)
BLACKPOOL (0) 0
 Att: 5,146
 Bournemouth: Leigh 7, Heffernan 7, Sulley 6, Spackman 7, Brignull 6, Impey 7, Carter 7, Williams 6, Crawford 6 (sub. O'Donnell), Morgan 6, ***FUNNELL 8**.
 Blackpool: Hesford 7, Simmonite 7, Brockbank 6, Noble 7, Hart 6, Blair 7, ***MORGAN 8**, McAvoey 6, Bamber 7, Hockaday 6, Pashley 6 (sub. Harrison).
 Referee: D. Letts (Basingstoke)
 Match Rating: ★★★★★

BRADFORD (0) 1 (Campbell 69)
TRANMERE (1) 1 (Griffiths 53)
 Att: 4,489
 Bradford: Ramsbottom 6, Podd 6, Watson 6, Ingham 6 (sub. Staniforth 6), Cooke 7, ***McFARLAND 8**, Gallagher 6, Lester 6, Campbell 7, McNiven 7, Chapman 7.
 Tranmere: Endersby 7, Parry 6, Burgess 6, Mountfield 6, Mungall 6, Williams 7, Powell 6 (sub. Hutchinson 6), ***HAMILTON 8**, Brown 7, Craven 6, Griffiths 6.
 Referee: C. Seal (Carlisle)
 Match Rating: ★★

HULL (2) 2 (Flounders 10, 26)
HEREFORD (0) 1 (Price 54)
 Att: 3,713
 Hull: Norman 5, McNeil 6, Booth 6, ***ROBERTS, D 8**, Thompson 6, Davies 5, Marwood 6, McClaren 6, Flounders 7, Mutrie 7, Richards 6.
 Hereford: Brand 4, ***PRICE 8**, Bartley 7, Pejic 6, Musial 5, Spiring 5, Harvey 6, Laidlaw 6, Phillips 6, Showers 7, White 6.
 Referee: A. Robinson (Manchester)
 Match Rating: ★★★★★

NORTHAMPTON (1) 2 (Saxby 29, Coffill 74)
HARTLEPOOL (1) 1 (Bird 44)
 Att: 1,890
 Northampton: Poole 6, Bryant 7, Carlton 7, ***GAGE 9**, Kruse 7, Coffill 8, Saxby 7, Buchanan 6, Massey 6, Heeley 5 (sub. Sandy 6), Denyer 6.
 Hartlepool: Watson 7, Linacre, J 6, Linacre, P 6, Bainbridge 7, ***LININGHAN 9**, Bird 8, Hogan 6, Staff 6, Johnson 6, Brown 6, Dobson 5 (sub. Harding 6).
 Referee: E. A. Read (Bristol)
 Match Rating: ★★★★★

PETERBOROUGH (1) 1 (Phillips 14)
BURY (0) 0
 Att: 3,931
 Peterborough: Freeman 6, Butler 6, Phillips 6, Gynn 7, ***SMITH 8**, Rodaway 6, Clarke 6, Lock 7, Cooke 6, Hodgson 6, Chard 5.
 Bury: Brown 6, ***BRADLEY 7**, Kennedy 5, Smith 6, Bramhall 6, Howard 6, Hilton 5 (sub. Gore 5), Butler 6, Madden 6, Jakub 5, Cruickshank 6.
 Referee: D. Hedges (Oxford)
 Match Rating: ★★★★★

ROCHDALE (1) 1 (Hilditch 19)
MANSFIELD (1) 1 (Parkinson 26)
 Att: 1,276
 Rochdale: Crawford 6, ***WEIR 8**, Snookes 7, Dolan 6, Burke 7, Cooper 6, Hamilton 5, Williams 6, Hilditch 7, Wellings 7, Martinez 6.
 Mansfield: Arnold 6, Bird 7, Foster 6, Bell 6, Burrows 7, Wood 6, ***MANN 8**, Caldwell 6, Lumby 6, Nicholson 7, Parkinson 7.
 Referee: M. J. Heath (Stoke)
 Match Rating: ★★
 Sending Off: Cooper (Rochdale)

SHEFFIELD UNITED (4) 4 (Matthews 4, Morris 37, Edwards 38, Trussion 39)
TORQUAY (0) 1 (Brown 72)
 Att: 14,992
 Sheff Utd: Waugh 7, Casey 6, Garner 7, ***MATTHEWS 8**, McPhail 6, Kenworthy 7, Morris 7, Trussion 7 (sub. Neville), Edwards 6, Hatton 6, King 5.
 Torquay: O'Keefe 5, Jones 5, Wilson 5, ***LAWRENCE 7**, Riech 6, Winn 6, Cox 6, Cooper 6, Tainton 5, Brown 6 (sub. Wheeldon).
 Referee: R. A. Banks (Manchester)
 Match Rating: ★★★★★

SCOTTISH

Scottish Cup, Semi-Final

ABERDEEN (0) 1 (Strachan, pen 67)
ST MIRREN (0) 1 (MacDougall 61)
 Att: 16,782
 Aberdeen: Leighton 7, Kennedy 7, Miller 6, McLeish 7, Rougvie 6 (sub. Bell), Cooper 6, McMaster 7, ***STRACHAN 8**, Simpson 7, Hewitt 6 (sub. Jarvie), McGhee 6.
 St Mirren: ***THOMSON 8**, Beckett 7, Abercrombie 6, Stark 7, McCormack 7, Copland 7, Richardson 6, McAvennie 7, MacDougall 6, Bone 7, Scanlon 6.
 Referee: H. Alexander (Irvine)
 Match Rating: ★★★★★

FORFAR (0) 0
RANGERS (0) 0
 Att: 15,878
 Forfar: ***KENNEDY 8**, Bennett 6, McPhee 7, Brown 6, Brash 7, Leitch 6, Allan 6 (sub. Porter 7), Farningham 6, Hancock 7, Gallacher 6, Clark 7 (sub. Watt).
 Rangers: Stewart 7, Dawson 7, Black 6, Jardine 7, McClelland 7, Bett 7, Dalziel 6 (sub. Davies 6), Russell 7, McAdam 6 (sub. Robertson), ***REDFORD 8**, MacDonald 7.
 Referee: K. J. Hope (Glasgow)
 Match Rating: ★★★★★

Premier Division

AIRDRIE (0) 0
HIBERNIAN (0) 2 (Jamieson 59, 89)
 Att: 2,500
 Airdrie: Martin 7, Anderson, G 6, Rodger 7, McCluskey 7, March 6, Anderson, N 6, McKeown 6 (sub. Gordon 6), ***FLOOD 8**, Campbell 7, Walker 6 (sub. Thompson 6), McGuire 7.
 Hibs: McArthur 7, Sneddon 6, Schaedler 6, Brazil 7, ***PATERSON 8**, McNamara 7, McLaren 6, Jamieson 7, Rae 6 (sub. Rodier), McLeod 7, Duncan 6.
 Referee: L. B. Thow (Glasgow)
 Match Rating: ★★★★★

DUNDEE (0) 0
DUNDEE UNITED (1) 2 (Bannon 34, Sturrock 51)
 Att: 12,602

MATCH WINNERS

THE ten lucky winners of the 'Spot the Difference' competition which appeared in the March 20 issue of 'Match' each receive a super 'Leads-Match' football. They are: John Warburton, Northfield, Birmingham; Alan Baker, Bingham, Notts; Tom Williams, Grazebrook Road, London, N16; Jason Bloxham, Farnham, Surrey; Paul Andrew Taylor, Kettlethorpe, West Yorks; Philip Triggs, Newton Abbot, Devon; Kevin Evans, Glanrhyd, Dyfed; Ian Whiles, Wittering, Peterborough; Brian Lee Knotts, Lakeside Park, Lincoln; David Gash, Ferryhill Station, Co. Durham.

MATCH FACTS MATCH FACTS

Dundee: Geddes 7, McKinnie 6, Smith 7, Glennie 6, Cameron 7, Barr 6 (sub).
Scrimgeour 6. ★FRASER 8, Kidd 6 (sub).
Stephen, Ferguson 7, Sinclair 6, Mackie 7.
Dundee Utd: McAlpine 7, Holt 6, Stark 7,
 Gough 6, Hegarty 7, Narey 6, Bannion 7.
 ★MILNE 8 (sub. Reilly), Sturrock 7, Kirkwood
 6, Dodds 7.
Referee: D. Syme (Glasgow)
Match Rating: ★★

MORTON (0) 1 (Ritchie 53)
CELTIC (1) 1 (Crainie 43)
 Att: 10,500
Morton: Baines 7, Hayes 6, Holmes 7,
 McLoughlin 6, Duffy 6, ★ROONEY 8,
 Cochran 7, Docherty 6, Ring 6, McNeill
 6, Hutchison 7, Ritchie 6.
Celtic: Bonner 7, Moyes 7, Reid 6, Aitken 7,
 McAdam 6, MacLeod 7, ★McSTAY 8,
 Sullivan 6 (sub. Provan), Burns 7, Crainie 6,
 McCluskey 7.
Referee: A. Waddle (Penicuik)
Match Rating: ★★

First Division

DUMBARTON (0) 0
RAITH (1) 2 (Ballantyne 35, 90)
 Att: 350

DUNFERMLINE (1) 2 (Considine 14,
 Hegarty 88)
AYR (1) 2 (McAllister 39, McNally 74)
 Att: 1,600

EAST STIRLING (1) 1 (Grant 32)
MOTHERWELL (0) 2 (Forbes 63, Cleland 78)
 Att: 1,000

HAMILTON (1) 2 (Donnelly 32, McAdam 53)
QUEEN'S PARK (0) 0
 Att: 1,056

HEARTS (2) 3 (McDonald 28, Robertson 54,
 71)
ST JOHNSTONE (0) 0
 Att: 4,577

KILMARNOCK (0) 0
CLYDEBANK (0) 0
 Att: 2,100

THE WORLD'S NUMBER ONE

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QUEEN OF THE SOUTH (1) 1 (Phillips 25
 secs)
FALKIRK (1) 1 (McIntosh 6)
 Att: 500

Second Division

BERWICK (1) 2 (Tait 18, Armstrong 78)
ARBROATH (1) 2 (Gavine 33, 83)
 Att: 350

CLYDE (1) 3 (McCutcheon 31, Nevin, pen 49,
 Masterton 71)
BRECHIN (0) 1 (Hay, pen 59)
 Att: 450

EAST FIFE (0) 0
ALLOA (2) 2 (Murray 10, Paterson 44)
 Att: 410

MEADOWBANK (0) 1 (Jobson, pen 79)
STRANRAER (0) 1 (Sweeney 53)
 Att: 200

MONTROSE (1) 1 (Johnston 29)
STIRLING (1) 2 (Colquhoun 22, 83)
 Att: 250

STENHOUSEMUIR (1) 3 (Buchanan 3,
 Munn 78, Meakin 88)
COWDENBEATH (0) 0
 Att: 400

LEADING SCORERS (League, Cups, Total)

Division One

Rush (Liverpool)	13	11	24
Keegan (Southampton)	21	2	23
Brazil (Ipswich)	16	6	22
Regis (West Brom)	14	8	22
Cassells (Southampton)	10	11	21
McDermott (Liverpool)	14	3	17
Wark (Ipswich)	13	4	17

Division Two

Stainrod (QPR)	13	7	20
Houchen (Orient)	18	1	19
Moore (Rotherham)	16	2	18
Bannister (Sheff Wed)	17	1	18
White (Luton)	16	1	17
Varadi (Newcastle)	14	2	16
Mayes (Chelsea)	12	4	16

Division Three

Davies (Fulham)	18	1	19
Kellow (Exeter)	17	1	18
Thomas (Oxford)	12	4	16
Phillips (Southend)	14	2	16
Coney (Fulham)	9	6	15
Bruce (Preston)	14	1	15

Division Four

Madden (Bury)	27	7	34
Cooke (Peterborough)	23	4	27
Mutrie (Hull)	24	1	25
Edwards (Sheff Utd)	24	1	25
Allinson (Colchester)	18	5	23
Campbell (Bradford)	18	3	21
Bremner (Colchester)	18	3	21

SCOTTISH Premier Division

Sturrock (Dundee Utd)	12	8	20
Clark (Airdrie)	14	2	16
McCluskey (Celtic)	13	3	16
McGarvey (Celtic)	10	5	15
Bannon (Dundee Utd)	8	6	14
MacDougall (St Mirren)	7	7	14
MacDonald (Rangers)	8	6	14
Johnstone (Rangers)	7	6	13
McAvennie (St Mirren)	10	3	13
Dodds (Dundee Utd)	8	5	13

First Division

Millar (Clydebank)	18	4	22
Frye (Ayr)	11	8	19
McLaughlin (Motherwell)	16	2	18
McNaughton (Dunfermline)	14	3	17
Morton (St Johnstone)	15	2	17
Cleland (Motherwell)	14	1	15
Irvine (Motherwell)	15	0	15

Second Division

Forrest (Cowdenbeath)	16	8	24
Robb (Arbroath)	15	5	20
Campbell (Brechin)	15	5	20
Lawson (Berwick)	15	5	20
Jobson (Meadowbank)	13	6	19
Davidson (Berwick)	10	7	17
Scott (East Fife)	12	3	15

Division One

Liverpool	31	10	3	43	13	8	3	32	13	60		
Ipswich	31	12	1	2	34	17	7	2	7	23	24	60
Southampton	34	14	1	2	41	19	3	7	7	19	30	59
Swansea	32	10	3	3	26	10	7	2	7	19	27	56
Man. Utd.	31	8	2	2	1	8	7	4	4	22	14	55
Arsenal	33	10	4	2	17	10	5	8	6	15	17	55
Tottenham	28	8	1	5	28	18	7	5	2	19	10	51
Man. City	33	8	8	3	29	14	5	5	6	15	20	50
West Ham	32	7	8	2	30	20	5	6	6	21	20	48
Nott'm For.	32	6	4	1	16	15	8	5	5	17	20	47
Brighton	33	6	7	4	26	21	5	6	5	10	14	46
Everton	32	8	5	3	24	15	3	6	7	15	23	44
Notts Co.	32	6	5	4	22	22	5	2	10	26	27	40
Aston V.	32	6	5	4	19	18	4	5	8	22	27	40
West Brom	29	5	6	3	18	13	3	5	7	17	22	35
Stoke	32	6	1	9	19	24	3	5	8	16	26	33
Birmingham	31	7	8	3	27	19	0	5	10	14	28	32
Coventry	33	6	3	7	23	22	2	5	10	15	31	32
Leeds	30	5	8	3	16	12	2	0	12	7	31	29
Wolves	33	6	4	7	11	15	1	4	11	9	35	29
Middlesbrough	31	3	6	6	14	20	1	5	10	9	22	23
Sunderland	31	2	4	10	9	24	3	4	8	11	20	23

Division Two

Luton	32	12	1	2	33	11	7	8	2	30	21	66
Watford	33	10	5	2	36	14	8	3	5	22	21	62
Sheff. Wed.	34	7	7	3	25	20	9	1	7	20	19	56
Newcastle	33	13	3	1	26	7	3	4	9	14	22	55
Rotherham	34	12	2	3	32	12	5	2	10	17	27	54
Blackburn	34	10	2	4	20	9	5	7	6	20	21	51
Barnsley	33	11	3	3	29	12	4	4	8	20	22	52
Leicester	31	10	4	2	24	11	4	5	6	20	22	51
Q.P.R.	32	11	3	2	26	6	4	2	10	16	25	50
Norwich	33	10	3	4	30	18	5	2	9	14	26	50
Oldham	34	7	8	3	24	21	5	4	7	17	20	48
Charlton	34	10	3	4	28	17	2	7	8	17	32	46
Chelsea	32	8	4	2	28	22	4	3	9	16	24	43
Cambridge	32	8	3	5	22	18	2	3	11	14	26	36
Shrewsbury	32	7	6	3	21	16	1	6	9	8	26	36
Derby	33	7	7	2	26	17	2	2	13	16	41	36
Cardiff	33	8	2	7	23	25	2	3	11	12	23	35
Crystal P.	31	7	2	6	17	17	2	5	9	6	17	34
Bolton	34	7	3	7	20	21	2	3	12	8	26	33
Wrexham	31	6	1	8	14	18	2	7	14	12	22	32
Orient	30	4	6	5	15	18	4	0	11	10	24	30
Grimsby	31	2	7	6	16	21	4	4	8	18	28	29

Division Three

Lincoln	37	9	7	3	33	15	7	6	5	23	19	61
Carlisle	34	13	4	1	33	15	4	4	8	15	22	59
Fulham	34	8	6	2	29	16	7	6	5	24	20	57
Reading	38	11	5	4	41	28	5	4	9	18	30	57
Burnley	35	8	6	2	25	13	6	8	5	23	23	56
Chesterfield	35	10	4	2	27	19	6	4	7	18	19	56
Oxford	34	7	6	4	19	14	7	5	5	24	21	53
Gillingham	35	9	4	4	34	22	5	5	8	14	22	51
Southend	36	8	7	6	17	15	4	5	7	16	19	51
Brentford	36	6	4	7	15	12	8	4	7	21	21	50
Bristol R.	37	10	3	3	28	21	4	5	10	17	30	50
Millwall	33	8	3	6	24	18	5	7	4	19	20	49
Plymouth	36	9	4	3	30	18	4	5	9	19	25	48
Huddersfield	36	8	4	7	30	22	4	6	7	22	24	46
Walsall	36	8	6	5	29	19	3	7	7	16	22	46
Exeter	36	11	2	5	36	29	2	5	11	20	40	46
Portsmouth	35	8	1	2	22	11	2	7	9	16	29	44
Preston	37	6	4	6	17	15	4	4	9	18	28	43
Doncaster	35	7	5	5	23	18	4	5	9	20	36	43
Newport	36	5	8	4	19	17	4	5	10	22	29	40
Swindon	34	6	4	8	29	31	3	8	5	12	18	39
Bristol City	34	4	5	8	15	21	4	4	9	14	23	33
Wimbledon	33	6	5	5	19	18	2	4	11	21	40	33
Chester	35	2	9	6	14	21	5	1	12	20	37	31

Division Four

Wigan	38	15	3	1	40	16	7	7	5	28	25	76
Sheff. Utd.	36	13	6	0	45	13	8	5	4	25	21	74
Peterboro	36	15	2	1	41	11	7	6	5	21	26	74
Brad City	37	11	6	2	40	18	10	4	4	31	18	73
Bournemouth	37	9	9	1	26	13	10	5	3	21	12	71
Colchester	37	10	5	3	43	19	7	4	8	27	27	60
Bury	35	11	4	1	43	17	4	8	7	22	26	57
Port Vale	37	6	10	2	20	15	8	4	7	27	26	56
Hull	35	11	1	5	29	17	3	7	8	28	33	54
Blackpool	36	10	3	6	36	22	3	7	7	21	25	49
Hereford	35	5	9	4	24	21	5	6	6	22	27	44
Torquay	36	7	7	4	23	18	4	4	10	14	24	44
Tranmere	38	4	9	6	20	22	5	8	6	19	25	44
Aldershot	37	4	8	24	25	5		7	7	22	32	44
Harlepool	37	6	6	6	26	23	4	4	10	14	24	44
Swindon	37	6	7	3	33	3	4	10	21	31	37	55
Darlington	36	7	4	6	25	21	3	7	9	19	30	44
Stockport	36	9	3	7	28	24	1	5	11	10	33	33
Northampton	38	8	4	8	31	26	2	3	12	41	46	59
Halifax	35	4	8	5	21	22	2	9	7	18	31	31
Rochdale	35	5	7	5	17	15	2	6	10	19	32	33
Lark	35	5	5	8	28	34	4	12	20	45	50	69
Southport	37	6	7	3	22	23	3	10	14	24	24	44
Wigan	36	3	4	11	12	3	3	12	8	34	28	55

The **GLENN HODDLE** Column



Ossi Ardiles — in the thick of things as always, this time against Sunderland. "Any team is going to miss a player of his stature."

WE resume our title challenge against Ipswich at White Hart Lane on Saturday bidding to get back on the winning trail.

Our last three League matches saw us take just two points from a possible nine, so victory on Saturday is that much more important — especially as Ipswich are above us in the table.

I missed the 0-0 draw with Birmingham and the 1-0 defeat at West Brom because I was laid up in bed for four days with flu.

But the lads said they were probably our worst two performances of the season.

I came back for the game against Arsenal and that provided me with my first serious work out for about ten days.

I'd done a little light training the day before the game, but I still felt tired and weak from my bout of flu.

It really took it out of me. I lost my appetite and about seven pounds in weight while I was laid up.

Against Arsenal, I made sure I played within myself and I was quite pleased with the way things went.

As for the game itself, I reckon it was the best Spurs-Arsenal derby I've ever played in.

They took their chances well in the first half and played well on the break to go 2-0 up.

But the second half was pretty much one-way traffic.

It looked pretty desperate at half-time, but we really showed our character in coming back to level the scores.

We played some lovely football in the second half.

Of course, Arsenal only have the League to go for now and a few people are tipping them to win the title.

Looking at their position in the table they obviously have a chance, but I don't feel their team is strong enough.

David O'Leary, Graham Rix, Alan Sunderland and Kenny Sansom form the basis of their side, but I feel they need another three good players.

On the subject of good players, we've lost one ourselves.

Following our FA Cup Semi-Final tie against Leicester last Saturday, Ossi Ardiles flew out to join up with the rest of the Argentinian squad to prepare for

FAREWELL, OSSIE!

the World Cup Finals.

Any team is going to miss a world-class player of his stature, but we've just got to get on with the job without him.

We've had good results this season when Ossi has been out injured and we have other good players who can come into the side.

The manager may decide to bring Graham Roberts into midfield or he could choose to string myself, Ricky Villa and Mike Hazard across the middle.

I'm confident that whoever comes in can do just as good a job for us — even though it may be in a different way.

Take Mike Hazard for example. England manager Ron Greenwood has already indicated that he's international material and I'm sure if he keeps his feet on the ground there is no limit to what he can achieve.

I don't see Ossi's departure putting any extra burden on my shoulders. I shall continue in my normal role.

Naturally enough, Ossi was disappointed to be leaving us at such a crucial time, but at the same time he's looking forward to preparing for the World Cup.

It's one of those occasions when you'd like to be in two places at the same time, I guess.

In contrast to Argentina, the England squad won't get together until after the FA Cup Final on May 22 — and even then some players will still have club commitments.

I think Spurs may still be playing League games in June so I'm not really sure what will happen in the case of Ray Clemence and myself.

Looking back, it might have been better had we started the League programme earlier than normal. Instead, the opening day's fixtures were pushed back to the end of August.

All we can do is take one match at a time and try and win our games in hand over the leaders.

We still have to play Ipswich

twice, Liverpool twice and Manchester United and Swansea at home, so it's in our hands to do it. And we believe we can!

Glenn Hoddle

● Glenn Hoddle was talking to Paul Stratton.



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JIM McDONAGH

BOLTON AND EIRE

FULL NAME: James Martin McDonagh.
BIRTHPLACE/DATE: Rotherham, October 6, 1953.
HEIGHT/WEIGHT: 6ft 0in/13st 9lb.
MARRIED: Yes, to Sue.
CHILDREN: Amy and James.
CAR: Ford Capri.
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Rotherham and Everton.
TRADE BEFORE TURNING PRO: None.
CLUB NICKNAME: Seamus.
WORST EVER INJURY: Broken leg in 1975.
FAVOURITE FOOTBALL LEAGUE PLAYER AND WHY: Frank Stapleton... the complete centre forward.
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Brazil.
FAVOURITE FOREIGN PLAYER AND WHY: Rudi Krol... he hasn't any weaknesses.
BEST ALL-TIME BRITISH TEAM: England's 1966 World Cup winning team: Banks, Cohen, Wilson, Stiles, J. Charlton, Moore, Ball, Hunt, Hurst, R. Charlton, Peters.
ALL-TIME INTERNATIONAL XI: Zoff (Italy), Vogts (W. Germany), O'Leary (Eire), Krol (Holland), Lawrenson (Eire); Currie (England), Brady (Eire), Rivelino (Brazil); Pele (Brazil), Stapleton (Eire), Law (Scotland).
FAVOURITE AWAY GROUND: Southampton.

FAVOURITE FOREIGN STADIUM AT WHICH YOU HAVE PLAYED: Feyenoord, Holland.
BEST GOAL SEEN SCORED: Frank Worthington's goal for Bolton against Ipswich in 1979.
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: The tax man.
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: A goalless draw with Stoke on February 25, 1978, just a few hours after the birth of my daughter.
OWN MAGIC MOMENT IN FOOTBALL: Winning my first cap for the Republic of Ireland against Wales last year.
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Eire missing out on the World Cup Finals.
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORT: Swimming.
FAVOURITE FOOD: Grilled salmon.
FAVOURITE DRINK: Chablis.
PRE-MATCH MEAL: Cornflakes and peaches.
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: Six full caps for the Republic of Ireland.
CAREER AFTER PLAYING: To have my own business.
PLAYER FOR THE FUTURE: Liverpool's Ronnie Whelan.
WHO WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET: The Pope.
ADVICE TO YOUNGSTERS: Eat, talk, sleep and play football.



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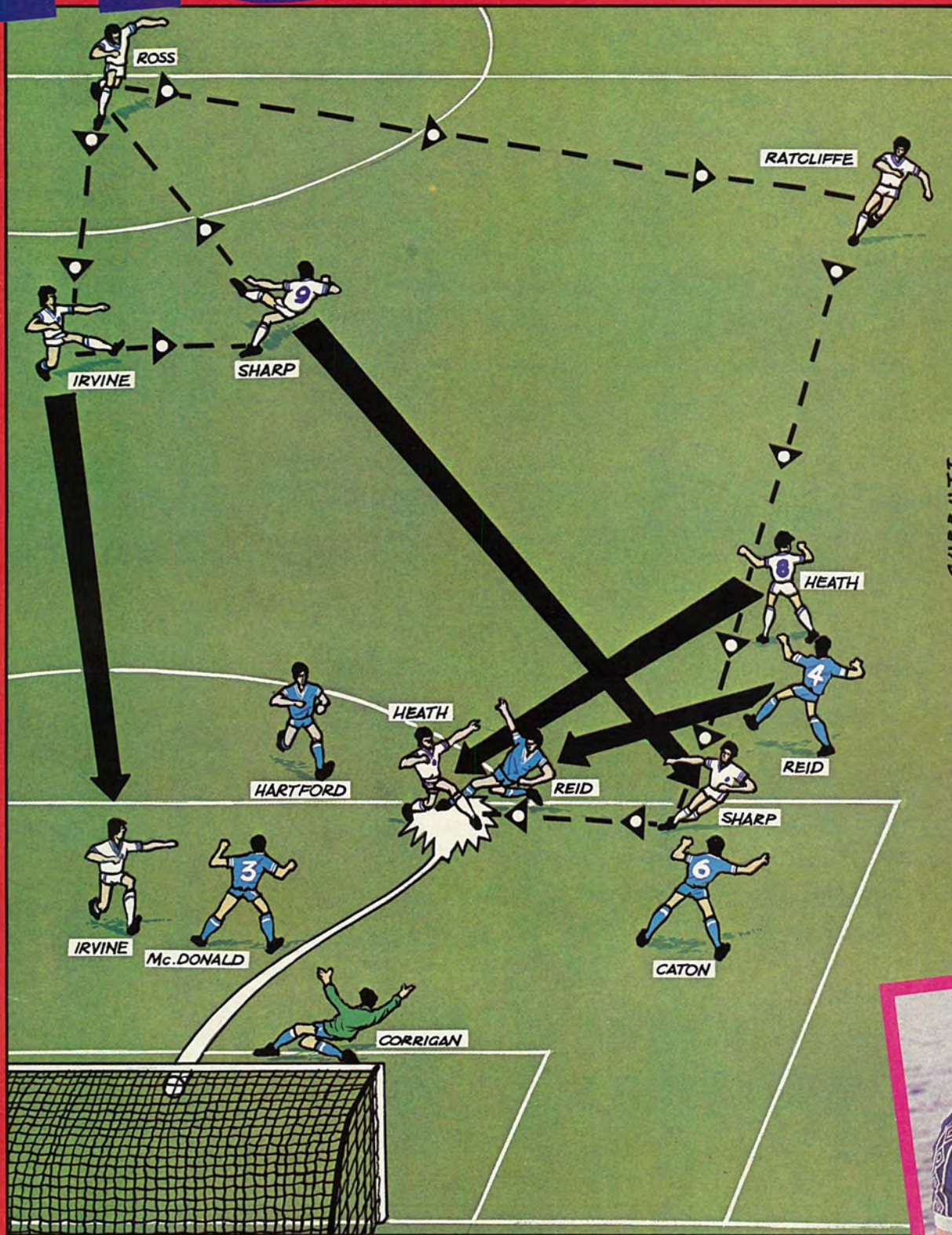
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HEATH HITS A HOWLER



GURBUTT

EVERTON star Adrian Heath may be a pocket-sized general in midfield, but he summoned up a goal of giant proportions in the Lancashire summit at Maine Road.

His viciously-struck drive from the edge of the penalty area after just five minutes carried such venom that City's England goalkeeper Joe Corrigan was left for dead on the edge of his six-yard area.

But, while the climax was full of power, the build-up glowed with superb one-touch football and a brilliant link-up between Heath and Graeme Sharp to carve out the opening.

Both Sharp and Trevor Ross featured in the movement twice before Kevin Ratcliffe speared a ball down the inside left channel.

Heath sold Nicky Reid a dummy, and then ran into space for a return pass from Sharp to send a dipping drive just under the City crossbar.

It was a goal worthy of winning a match, but, as it turned out the lead lasted just sixty seconds before Kevin Bond blasted an equaliser at the other end.

And, despite City losing Trevor Francis — sent off for the first time in his career — that was how the scoreline stayed.

GOLDEN GOAL

Adrian Heath (Everton) v Man. City, Division One, Maine Road, Sat., March 20, 1982.



STAR GALLERY

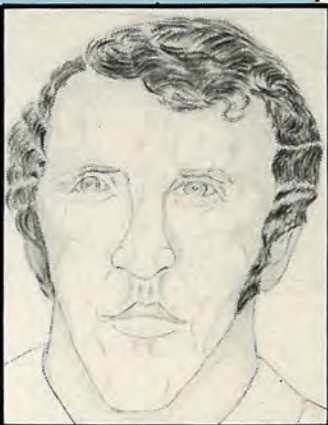
RIGHT: "One of the best footballers of all time" is England skipper and Match columnist Kevin Keegan, says 13-year-old Matthew Lucas, of St Helens, Merseyside.



BELOW: Tottenham and England 'keeper Ray Clemence is the subject of Andrew Hooton (15), of Chilwell, Nottingham.



ABOVE: The safest 'keeper in the First Division. That's Jimmy Rimmer, according to Ian Cope of Castle Bromwich, Birmingham.



Aston Villa striker Gary Shaw is the favourite of 14-year-old Adele Beard, of Studley, Warwickshire. "Gary has scored many important goals for Villa," she says.

SEND your works of art to: 'Star Gallery', Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DJ. Each one published wins £2.

"He's the best right back in the world", says Neil Brown (15), of Argyll, Scotland, of Celtic and Scotland defender Danny McGrain.

Backward step

WHY on earth does England boss Ron Greenwood keep switching his central defenders?

He's permutated several top centre backs — Russell Osman, Terry Butcher, Dave Watson, Steve Foster, Alvin Martin, and Phil Thompson — and even tried Bryan Robson and Ray Wilkins at the back.

Surely he realises that a settled defence is England's first priority with the World Cup Finals just round the corner.

Greenwood must get the defence right — or England could end up the laughing stock of the Finals. David Whitaker, Bognor Regis, Sussex.

On song

HERE'S my Top Ten footballing chart-busters!

- 1 Golden Brown — Garth Crooks.
- 2 Embarrassment — Wolves.
- 3 Stars over 45 — Brian Clough and Peter Taylor.
- 4 It ain't what you do, it's the way that you do it — Glenn Hoddle.
- 5 Showroom Dummies — Middlesbrough.
- 6 Say Hello, Wave Goodbye — Clive Allen.
- 7 I wanna be three — Derek Statham to Ron Greenwood.
- 8 Classic — Justin Fashanu.
- 9 Head over heels — Bruce Grobbelaar.
- 10 Best friend — Russell Osman and Terry Butcher. Jason Smith, Edmonton, London.

OUTRAGED!

Sent off!
£5

DEAR DIEGO

I WAS outraged to read in 'Match' that Boca Juniors were planning to sell Diego Maradona to Barcelona (via Argentinos Juniors) for £2½ million.

I then read that Arsenal are showing interest in the Argentinian ace, even though he may cost the Gunners £4 million!

No player in the world is worth that sort of money, no matter how good he is.

Lee Taylor (14), Mexborough, South Yorkshire.

● **THIS** one is. You're sent off.

Elliott's better than Foster

I AM outraged that Ron Greenwood can pick someone like Steve Foster to play for England when a defender like Sunderland's Shaun Elliott can't even get into the squad.

Even Barnet's non-League forward line gave Foster trouble in an FA Cup-tie this season. How on earth will he cope against top class forwards if, as seems likely, he goes to Spain for the World Cup Finals?

Elliott is a far better player than Foster. He has more all-round skill and should get his international chance. Martin Gilfoyle, Peterlee, Co. Durham.

● **FOSTER** has defied Britain's top strikers as Brighton have pushed for a place in Europe. Elliott has been at the centre of Sunderland's leaky defence as they head for the drop into Division Two. Foster deserves his recognition... and you deserve a booking!

OUTRAGED at something concerning soccer? Then write and tell us about it.

But remember, you risk the wrath of the Match referee who may book you or, worse still, send you off!

Just to soften the blow, the person who gets his marching orders wins £5 and those whose names are taken get £2.

Write to: 'Outraged', Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DJ.

BAILEY BLUNDER

I'M outraged about Match Weekly's Top Stoppers competition. Maybe Gary Bailey is at the top of the list, but that's only due to Manchester United's superb defence.

Bailey's international hopes are non-existent. I've never seen him make a full-length diving save. Julian Farr, Crowthorne, Berks.

● **WHEN** you've got Bailey's positional sense, you don't have to make too many diving saves. Bailey will take over from Clemence and Shilton between the posts for England... and you're booked.

Charlie's our darling

I was thrilled to hear that Charlie George, after a spell in Hong Kong, was on his way back to Derby County.

Charlie is still idolised by the Derby fans after his previous term with County. His inclusion in the team will certainly boost attendances.

And perhaps Charlie's stylish performances will help Derby recover from the Division Two doldrums and lead us back into the top flight.

Bruce Dilks, Breadsall, Derby.

LACK-LUSTRE LEEDS

I AM not satisfied with the way Leeds are playing at the moment. United are sticking to a rigid 4-4-2 formation instead of using three strikers.

Leeds boss Allan Clarke should make more use of the talent on his staff, and that means playing all three of his top forwards — Peter Barnes, Frank Worthington and Derek Parlane.

Louis Sinagra, Uxbridge, Middlesex.

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WINNER**

Bruce plays a blinder

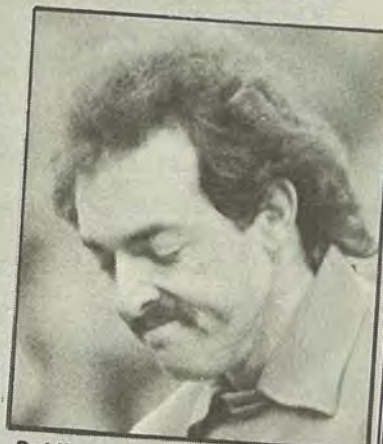
IT was marvellous to see Liverpool goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar, who suffered so much criticism earlier this season, on the winning side in the League Cup Final at Wembley.

Bruce was thrown in at the deep end when he took over from Ray Clemence as Liverpool's 'keeper. I think the pressure must have affected some of his early-season performances.

But his performances improved and he played an absolute 'blinder' at Wembley to keep the Reds in contention, and allow them to win through in extra-time.

I hope Bruce continues to set such high standards.

Hugh Cardiff, Dundrum, Dublin.



Dublin reader Hugh Cardiff praises Bruce Grobbelaar's performances in the Liverpool goal.

TERRACE TALK

EX-UNITED ALL-STARS

SEVERAL 'Match' readers have sent in their team of 'ex-players'. But none of these sides would beat my ex-Manchester United line-up. It is:

Jimmy Rimmer (Aston Villa), Brian Greenhoff (Leeds), Stewart Houston (Sheffield Utd), Jim Holton (Sheffield Wednesday), Alex Forsyth (Rangers), David McCreery (Tulsa), Sammy McIlroy (Stoke), Mickey Thomas (Brighton), Andy Ritchie (Brighton), Stuart Pearson (West Ham), Joe Jordan (AC Milan). Sub: Jimmy Greenhoff (Port Vale). Nicholas Tite, Rushden, Northants.

It's absurd

THE involvement of politics in sport has reached absurd levels.

I went along to the Wimbledon v Moscow Dynamo match, to be met outside by supporters of Solidarity handing out leaflets asking fans to boycott the match because of Russia's political involvement in the Poland crisis.

Although many people sympathise with the plight of Poland's people, surely the boycott of this match would have little effect. The only people who would suffer would be Wimbledon Football Club and the fans, who would have missed a thoroughly enjoyable match.

Alison Vickery, Kingston, Surrey.

... the letters page with something to say!

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Write to: 'Terrace Talk', Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DJ.

Withe the wanderer . . .

'MATCH' reader Colin Grainger asked in Terrace Talk if any Football League player had been with as many clubs as the much-travelled Bob Hatton. Well here's one . . . striker Peter Withe.

Peter's list of clubs reads: Portland Timbers (USA), Barrow, Arcadia Shepherds (Africa), Wolves, Nottingham Forest, Birmingham City, Newcastle United, Southport and his current team, Aston Villa. Stephen Poxon, Morecambe, Lancashire.



Aston Villa's Peter Withe has travelled round more than Sheffield United's Bob Hatton, says Morecambe reader Stephen Poxon.

Food for thought

TOTTENHAM's fast-food service is tremendous. I went to a recent match at White Hart Lane and it took me just five minutes to get something to eat.

Other First Division clubs should take note. If the fans are able to get a snack quickly and are able to watch a game in comfort, then they will be keen to come again.

Darren Goodey, Waltham Abbey, Essex.

Statham's turn . . .

I WAS pleased to see Ron Greenwood giving some new faces a chance at international level.

Cyrille Regis and Steve Foster made a bright start on their England debuts and Ron should keep up the good work by drafting in some more of our talented young stars when he names his teams for forthcoming friendly matches.

Players like Derek Statham, should also be given an opportunity. My 22 for the World Cup Finals would be:

Goalkeepers: Peter Shilton, Joe Corrigan, Ray Clemence.

Defenders: Phil Neal, Kenny Sansom, Derek Statham, Steve Foster, Alvin Martin, Dave Watson, Phil Thompson.

Midfield: Trevor Brooking, Alan Devonshire, Ray Wilkins, Bryan Robson, Glenn Hoddle, Steve Coppell.

Forwards: Kevin Keegan, Trevor Francis, Paul Mariner, Cyrille Regis, Tony Morley, Tony Woodcock.

Ian Whittaker, Felpham, Sussex.

REGIS REPORT IS A GOLDEN GOOF

BIG Cyrille Regis is tormenting First Division defences at the moment. And, according to one newspaper report, he's even a threat when he doesn't play!

Cyrille was out of action when West Brom played Arsenal at Highbury. John Aston of Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, spotted this Golden Goof . . .

Arsenal 2, West Brom 2
ANDY KING shocked a small Highbury crowd last night with a goal that dented Arsenal's championship ambitions.

West Brom surprised the Gunners with their attacking attitude. They were expected to put up a defensive wall as they did at Southampton on Saturday.

But the Midlanders deserved their goal after putting Arsenal's defence under considerable pressure with Cyrille Regis a constant threat.

West Brom were offered an early chance to take the lead when Arsenal

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Left: Former Wales skipper Terry Yorath — he played alongside Dave Thomas at Vancouver Whitecaps.

Reporter Anthony Hawkswell talks to a victim of the soccer cash crisis Stateside who's out to prove he still has something to offer in the top flight in England . . .



Above: Former England winger Dave Thomas — back in the First Division with Middlesbrough and determined to prove he's as fit and enthusiastic as ever.

RETURN OF THE WANDERER

Former England winger Dave Thomas spoke this week of his unexpected return to the First Division with relegation-haunted Middlesbrough.

Just 12 months ago, Dave signed a three-year contract with Vancouver Whitecaps and expected to finish his career Stateside, but he became a victim of the recession which is gripping football across the globe.

He explained: "Coach Johnny Giles wanted me to stay but, because of the financial cut-backs, I was released from my contract.

"Football in America is going through the same financial problems as it is over here. The only difference is that, in the States, it's more cut-throat.

"Football clubs are run just like any other business. If they aren't making money, they just shut up shop. No end of teams have gone bankrupt in the last year."

Dave returned to England six months ago and it's taken him nearly all that time to sort out compensation with his old club.

"At first, they wanted a fee for me," he explained. "But in the current financial situation, no-one is going to splash out on a player who's nearing his 32nd birthday.

"Then Vancouver terminated my contract and I became a free agent. It was then that Middlesbrough stepped in. They couldn't have afforded a fee for me," added Dave, who joined the Whitecaps after an unhappy nine-month spell with Wolves.

Dave is on loan to the Ayresome Park club until the end of the season. He says: "I don't know what will happen after that. In many ways, I'm in the shop window at Middlesbrough.

"I'm grateful to the club for giving me a chance to play in the First Division again. It's up to me to prove that I've still got something to offer.

"I believe I'm good enough for the top flight. Age is in the mind but I'm still as fit and enthusiastic as ever."

While he was sorting out his problems with Vancouver, Dave kept in trim by training with the Everton players. He says: "Howard Kendall was great. I've a lot to thank him for."

Middlesbrough are firmly entrenched at the bottom of the First Division and look favourites for the drop but, says Dave:

"Our position certainly isn't healthy, but it can only get better! Under the three points for a win ruling, anything can happen if we string a few good results together. The players haven't given up hope."

Dave, who picked up eight England caps and was rated as one of the game's most exciting wingers, started his career at Burnley and had spells with QPR, Everton and Wolves before moving to America.

"I joined Vancouver because I wasn't getting anywhere at Molineux. I didn't get very good treatment there so I had nothing to lose," said Dave, who made just ten League appearances for Wolves.

"I enjoyed my six months in Vancouver. It was a great experience and I wouldn't have missed it for the world, but I can't see myself returning.

"I believe there are a lot of players there who wish they were back in England. It's a totally different way of life.

"The standard of living is

very high and Vancouver is a beautiful place, but I still found myself thinking about home. I missed my garden, the English countryside and village life.

"On the field, it was like 'home from home' because Vancouver have a crop of British players on their books," said Dave.

Former Tottenham and Wales skipper Terry Yorath is on the staff at Vancouver, along with his old Leeds team-mates David Harvey, Peter Lorimer and Ray Hankin.

And they reached the play-offs of the Soccer Bowl only to be knocked out by Tampa Bay Rowdies.

"We were outright winners in our section and got beaten by the Rowdies, who sneaked through in their division. It was a bit of an anti-climax for us really. Once you've been beaten in that competition there's nothing else to play for."

Dave's own first team chances were restricted to just ten outings in 32 games. "It wasn't my fault. I just didn't figure in the club's plans.

"But now I'm looking forward to starting again in the First Division."



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Gresb Gafoor, Bury, Lancs.

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by MITCH



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No. 14 DAVIE PROVAN

Focus on the Scotland World Cup hopeful for whom injury came at the worst possible time.

PROVAN UNDER PRESSURE

Davie races against time

CELTIC striker Davie Provan faces a desperate race against time.

Davie hasn't played a Premier Division game since January because of a troublesome knee injury and he fears it could cost him a place in Scotland's World Cup squad.

Although the 25-year-old is back in full training, he admits: "It's going to take me a long time before I reach full fitness."

"I haven't given up hope of going to Spain with the Scotland team, but time is running out for me," said Davie — a regular in Jock Stein's squad for most of the qualifiers.

"This season has been a disaster for me. If I could have picked one year to stay clear of injuries, it would have been this one."

Simple

"Before the knee began to trouble me, I had a reasonable chance of making the trip to Spain this summer. It's not going to be easy now."

"The ironic thing is that it's quite a simple injury to put right. My problem was that it took so long to diagnose."

Davie revealed that he first felt twinges in his knee at the beginning of the season, but an exploratory operation in October

failed to find the cause.

"If it had been sorted out then, things would have been so different," said Davie.

"It wasn't a cartilage injury, as many people imagined. I'd damaged the fat on the side of my knee and it became inflamed."

"I started off the season well and was happy with my form, but the injury got so bad that I was being forced to miss training sessions. In fact I haven't done any sustained training for nearly a year."

"Now I've played in a few reserve games and the knee feels fine. I've had no reaction whatsoever."

"But after such a long lay-off, it takes time to get fully fit."

"Playing in a World Cup Finals is the ultimate. I will be bitterly disappointed if I don't make it," added Davie, who has ten caps.

"Once I get back to full fitness, there's no guarantee that I'll get straight back into the Celtic side. The way young Danny Crainie has been playing in my absence will make it difficult for me."

Davie has had to watch from the sidelines as Celtic have once again taken control of the Premier Division to look odds-on favourites for the title.

"I've been to all the games and haven't enjoyed a minute of them. I'm an awful spectator. I just don't like watching. I wish I

was out there with the lads."

Davie was signed by Celtic from Kilmarnock for £120,000 in 1978 and collected a championship medal a season later.

He made his Scottish debut when he came on as substitute for Joe Jordan in 1979 against Belgium in Brussels.

● Read Melvyn Beck's assessment of Scotland's World Cup opponents Brazil on page 12.



Davie Provan — time is running out as he fights to be fit for Scotland's World Cup bid in Spain.

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HULL WANT MUTRIE GOALS ON THE CHEAP

LES Mutrie is one of the country's top goalscorers.

With 24 in the League, he has scored almost half of Fourth Division Hull's 53 goals.

It's an impressive tally that makes him something of an envied commodity at a time when football is crying out for goals and entertainment.

Yet, the 30-year-old striker reveals that he has been asked to take a wage cut next season of around £50 a week to help Hull survive their financial crisis.

And his response is sharp and precise: "It's ludicrous, and a situation I'm not prepared to accept. "My contract has a built-in rise clause, yet they

Focus on Divisions Three and Four with Melvyn Beck

are asking me to take a massive cut. I just can't do it. "If they don't honour my contract, then I become a free agent.

"I'm already looking for another club at the moment. I don't think there is any way that I shall be playing for Hull next season.

"I appreciate that the club gave me a second chance in League football last year at the age of 29, but I believe I have repaid them in full."

Les, who joined Hull from Blyth Spartans last season after the non-League side had almost knocked them out of the FA Cup, was one of eight senior players transfer-listed as the club attempted to reduce their wage bill.

Manager Mike Smith and coach Cyril Lea were sacked and, according to Les, the players don't know what is around the next corner.

Already two of the players, Micky Horswill and Nick Deacy, have flown to Hong Kong to resume their careers, while Les himself was close to joining First Division Birmingham just before the transfer deadline.

The deal fell through and, ironically, Birmingham boss Ron Saunders bought striker Mick Harford from Hull's brothers-in-distress, Bristol City.

"The players just don't know what is going on behind the scenes.

"We recently went through a spell of only three

defeats in 24 games, yet eight of us have virtually been sacked, along with the manager.

"I was bitterly disappointed when the Birmingham deal collapsed.

"We were led to believe that no fees would be involved, yet when Birmingham came in, a figure of around £150,000 was being talked about for myself and goalkeeper Tony Norman.

"Now it looks as though I'm going to be a free agent, anyway," says Les.

"But at my age, it would be no good me going into the First Division, playing three or four games and then ending up in the reserves.

"It may be a question of signing for any League club where I can be guaranteed first team football because that is all I want.

"But that is not to say I couldn't do it in the First Division.

"From what I have seen in the First Division, I'm sure I could do a good job.

"But First Division clubs worry about the ages of players. They prefer to produce their own kids because it's obviously cheaper that way."

Despite the crisis at Hull, the players will be giving their best until the end of the season.

"There is plenty of spirit in the dressing room because I suppose we are playing to save our League careers."

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Transfer deadline week produced a flurry of action. But one of the biggest stories revolved around the deal that fell through. Here Anthony Hawkswell talks to one of the stars involved...

Left: Garry Thompson — determined to fight for his place at Coventry.

Garry's gee-up

ENGLAND Under-21 striker Garry Thompson is determined to reclaim his place in the Coventry side after a move to London giants Arsenal collapsed on transfer deadline day.

'Gunners' manager Terry Neill was prepared to offer cash plus his Welsh midfielder Peter Nicholas even though Garry is out of favour at Highfield Road.

Garry said: "Of course I was disappointed that the deal didn't go through. I'd have gone there like a shot. It would have been a great opportunity for me.

"But the fact that a club like Arsenal are interested in me has given my confidence a tremendous boost and that's just what I needed.

Future

"It's made me doubly determined to fight for my place in the Coventry attack. Before I heard of the proposed move, I was feeling a bit low and despondent with life in the reserves.

"But I've had a chat with Coventry general manager Gordon Milne and he's spelt it out that I've got a future with the club."

Garry knows that he faces one of the toughest tests of his young career to break back into a Coventry team that's slowly moving away from the First



Division danger area.

"The team are picking up points here and there and Mark Hateley, Tommy English and Steve Whittton are all playing well up front.

"Unless they have a bad run, I can't see the manager changing the team. All I can do is put pressure on the lads by playing well.

"It's not been a very good season for me all round and I fully recognise that it's my own fault I'm out of the side.

"Because things haven't been going as well as I expected them to, I've let it get to me and my confidence has suffered. I've got to learn to take the rough with the smooth."

Garry, who lost his place through suspension, added: "It's at times like this that your character comes out.

"There has been a question mark about my attitude this

Left: Peter Nicholas — Arsenal offered him in a player plus cash deal for Garry Thompson.

season and I'm determined to put that right and I believe this episode could help me.

"If I manage to get my place back, there's no way I'll give it up as easily again. You've got to be prepared to work hard in this game.

Crowds

"It's very difficult to gee yourself up for reserve team games. I've been playing matches in front of crowds of 50. I really miss the big crowds and I'm desperate for a return."

Garry, who's still got two years of his contract to run, is happy to stay at Highfield Road.

"I've been here since I was 16 and it would be a wrench to leave. I believe that we can become a successful club.

"We've got the nucleus of a good side here and, if we can hang on to our experienced players like Steve Hunt, I see no reason why we shouldn't do well."

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